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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, how would you rate CUC's response time to power outages during last week's bad weather?

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INSIDE

BUSINESS

Apple Inc. is refreshing its iPad and Mac computer lineup.

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NATION

Thirteen-year-old Angelo Ferro says he came face-to-face with shooter.

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LIFE & STYLE

Natalie Portman says hitting Chris Hemsworth was "one small slap for womankind."

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WITH CHECKS IN HAND

Relief, worry: What now?

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» CNMI businesses see windfall from refunds

Hundreds felt a mixed sense of relief, excitement, and worry as they picked up their checks or got their direct bank deposits yesterday as part of the NMI Retirement Fund's disbursements of over $40 million in remaining defined benefit plan employee contributions refunded to over 1,700 individuals.

With portions of the over $40 million expected to circulate in the local economy, businesses are also bracing for a windfall. These could include grocery and retail store shopping, new car purchases, house renovations, and bank deposits.

Checks picked up from the Retirement Fund office on Capital Hill yesterday ranged from $20,000 to $100,000, based on interviews with some of the members.

See RELIEF on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A group of firefighters with the Department of Public Safety fall in line to get their refund checks at the NMI Retirement Fund on Capital Hill yesterday morning. While over $40 million in defined benefit plan employee contribution refunds is expected to boost the economy, there is also worry that many will spend on immediate purchases and not set aside enough funds for their retirement years.

'Short list' of land lease investors ready

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a short list of investors for public land leases in Marpi and San Antonio could be out as early as tomorrow, another step toward building two

See INVESTORS on Page 4

MARIANAS REUNIFICATION

'Guam becoming commonwealth is first step'

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The first step toward the reunification of the Marianas archipelago is for Guam to first become a commonwealth, according to local historian Don Farrell.

Farrell, whose lecture "Marianas Reunification Efforts" bookended the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's three-part lecture series, said it

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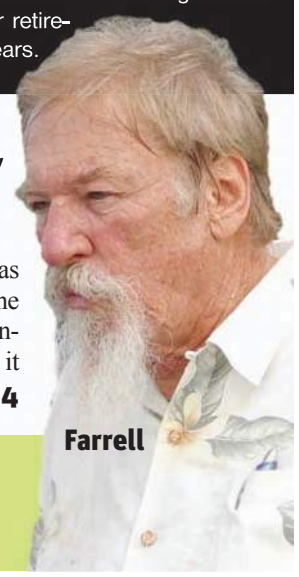

Farrell

DPS chief alarmed over big volume of 'ice' in NMI. PAGE 3
CNMI to hire Taiwanese intern for travel promo. PAGE 13

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Local

Municipal Council honors Saipan's first mayor

The late Francisco M. Diaz does not only carry the distinction of being Saipan's first elected mayor, he also now is the first person to have been posthumously honored with a commemorative resolution at the Saipan and Northern Islands Leadership Memorial Kiosku.

Yesterday, the 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, led by its chair Ramon B. Camacho, presented Diaz's widow, Remedio, and the couple's children a commemorative resolution paying special tribute to the late former mayor and "expressing special condolences and a depth of gratitude."

The resolution stated that "Diaz's unselfish interest and dedication in serving his community is best exemplified in his extensive involvement in the Rotary Club of Saipan and its community events; elected public official as a congressman during the Trust Territory Government; and 'trusted adviser' to the CNMI's first elected governor, Carlos Camacho."

It also said that Diaz "contributed extensively to the progressive improvement of Saipan and the Commonwealth during his tenure as the first mayor of the municipality of Saipan (1978-1982) and a member of the Saipan and Northern Islands Chalan Kanoa Kiosku Community Planning Committee in the 10th, 11th, and 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council."

Prior to becoming the island's first-ever mayor, Diaz also served for 10 years in the Naval Administration (1952-1962) and 13 years in the Trust Territory Government (1962-1975).

He also worked as Microl Corp.'s Commercial Division manager and was later promoted as the auto dealership ombudsman, dealing with governmental and community relations.

One of Diaz's sons, Raymond, said the family feels very honored that the municipal council recognized their dad for his accomplishments and contributions in the CNMI.

"We are very thankful to the 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council," he said.

A still grieving Remedio said her late husband's three passions were politics, family, and sports—not necessarily in that order.

"He's always been involved in politics but another of his passions is sports. He was once admitted to hospital but went out just to watch one his son's games. Before died he also went to a game to see one of his grandkids play," she said, adding that even in a wheelchair her husband would still passionately cheer for his grandchild.

His brother, retired government employee Luis Manibusan, said he never thought the municipal council would give Diaz a commemorative resolution.

See MAYOR on Page 4

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DPS chief alarmed over big volume of 'ice' in NMI

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero expressed alarm yesterday over the big volume of crystal methamphetamine or "ice" circulating in the CNMI.

Over 20 years ago, he said, the street value of "ice" in the Commonwealth was between $800 to $1,000 per gram. Today, a user can buy a gram of "ice" for only $250.

"So that means there's a lot of drugs out there," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said he is quite concerned about this "ice" problem, considering that many people are cashing out their retirement refund checks since yesterday.

» 'From $800 to $1,000 per gram, drug now at $250 a gram'

"It would be an absolute travesty for their family if they start to use the money to play poker or use drugs," he said.

The "ice" problem appears to be getting out of control, he said, so it is about time to seriously address this issue. Deleon Guerrero said "ice" use is a major contributor to theft and robbery cases.

He said there used to be two independent task forces—the CNMI Drug Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration—to battle the "ice" problem.

Now the two task forces "are put under one house, so to speak."

He said the two task forces will now operate out of the DEA office.

"While they are operating independently because of the type of laws they're supposed to enforce, they are somewhat unified in a sense that they are able to share information more closely together, that they are coordinating efforts everyday," Deleon Guerrero said.

He said it was at his recent meeting with the Customs director when they agreed to put the task forces under one house.

Drag racing legalization pushed

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) prefiled yesterday a bill that would legalize drag racing in the CNMI where he said "illegal" drag races have already been happening for quite a while.

Leon Guerrero, a former police officer, said drag racing is "becoming a very popular sporting activity" in the CNMI.

But he said there is no facility or designated area where those interested in pursuing the sport of drag racing "can meet to enhance their competitive skills and expertise."

When asked about possible areas on the islands where drag racing can be held, Leon Guerrero said it would be important to have a law in place first.

"Once we have a law in place, there can be feasibility studies done to determine the suitable places for it," he told *Saipan Tribune* shortly after prefiling House Bill 18-141 yesterday.

Once the bill becomes law, drag racing will be allowed on public or private property where businesses can invest in this type of sport.

Leon Guerrero, chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Government, said, "Many individuals both young and old put themselves and others at risk in participating in illegal drag racing in various areas in the CNMI."

"It is imperative that action be taken in regards to drag racing to prevent individuals from harming themselves or others while participating in illegal drag racing activities," he said in his bill.

Leon Guerrero said he will be formally introducing HB 18-141 in this afternoon's House session. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

13 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 13 beaches on Saipan and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are Wing Beach, Pau-Pau Beach, Palms Resort Beach, Aqua Resort Beach, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Micro Beach, Hafa Adai Hotel, Garapan Beach, Chalan Laulau Beach, CK Dist. 2 drainage, CK Dist. 4 drainage, PIC Beach, and San Antonio lift station.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Tuesday.

For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(PR)***

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INVESTORS

From Page 1

or three new hotels with at least 200 rooms each.

Tenorio said there would be two investors on the short list for each of the lots on Marpi and San Antonio.

"This project is moving forward… The letter of notice for those who are on the short list would be issued either on Friday or early next week," Tenorio said.

Leasing public lands for new hotel development comes at an opportune time because the currently available hotel rooms are not enough to accommodate an increasing number of tourists to the CNMI.

Tenorio serves on an ad-hoc five-member committee that has been reviewing the proposals submitted in response to DPL's first-of-its-kind request for proposal in May.

The seven responding investors were KSA Corp.; Micronesia Resort Inc.; INNOASSET; Future Enterprises Inc. & Reading Investment & Securities and Korea Asset Investment Corp.; Delta America Inc. & Joong Ang Corp.; Honest Profit International Ltd.; and Tan Holdings Corp.

The review committee includes representatives from DPL, Zoning Office, departments of Public Works and Commerce, and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

"The reason why it's taking so long to choose among the investors is they offered very competitive proposals," Tenorio added.

After the short list notifications are sent, the review committee would then interview each of the investors on that list.

Tenorio said the selected investors for each of the public lands would then negotiate with DPL on the land lease.

Any lease of public land consisting of more than 5 hectares requires the Legislature's approval.

The three public lands in the RFP total 139,832 square meters—about 49,500 square meters in Marpi; some 49,505 square meters also in Marpi; and some 40,827 square meters in San Antonio.

The first two lots in Marpi are contiguous to each other. Flame Sako earlier leased these areas for a planned multi-million dollar hotel but later abandoned the project.

The San Antonio lot was earlier leased to KSA Corp. for a planned hotel with villas and condotels. The project also didn't materialize, resulting in DPL terminating the lease with KSA Corp. in June 2008.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday to the greatest Daddy/Grandpa, Manuel Cabrera, who is celebrating his birthday today, Oct. 24! Enjoy your day and many more to come! We love you! Greetings come from your family and friends.

It was just a year ago when God sent an angel on this earth. Happy first birthday, Byron Cruz Jr., and may you have many more to come. Love Mom, Dad, and most especially your big brother, Kayven.

MAYOR

From Page 2

"It's the smallest [among our elected bodies] with only three members. I wish other organizations like the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the Saipan Mayor's Office will bestow him this kind of honor. I just wish they could recognize that my brother is one of the islands' pioneer leaders and an important figure in the community. They should've given him some kind of recognition days before his funeral. I wish all these people will come together and do that."

Diaz died last Oct. 13 after a long bout with cirrhosis. He was 77 years old. Aside from Remedio and Raymond, he is survived by his other children: Frances J, Francisco, Juan, Frances D, Joaquin, Thomas, Anthony, Melissa, Tricia, Edward, and Deborah. ***(Mark Rabago)***

GUAM

From Page 1

was the U.S. territory's first Washington representative to Congress, Tony Wan Pat, who first suggested commonwealth status for Guam as a pathway to reunification.

"It was Tony Wan Pat, in a meeting with the late former governor Ricky Bordallo, who said that for us to reunify, Guam must first become a commonwealth and create its own constitution just like the Northern Marianas," Farrell said during his lecture at the Northern Marianas College Tuesday night.

"If Guam does proceed with commonwealth status and gain what we have today, then we could consider the issue of combining both commonwealths into one and asking for incorporated status," he said.

Once a united Guam and Northern Marianas becomes an incorporated territory, then the islands can petition for statehood.

"Becoming incorporated will not necessarily make us a state but it will give us the dignity of having the option to ask," he said.

However, Farrell said that Guam and the CNMI's reunification carries inherent problems.

"We got trade and tariff agreements. There's a port here and a port on Guam. Businesses will have a fit with separate tax codes in the Northern Marianas and Guam."

And "we're not even talking about the makeup of a Marianas legislature" and where the new capital would be located, Farrell said.

He jocularly suggested making Tinian the capital because like Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia, Saipan and Guam should make the "sacrifice." Farrell resides on Tinian.

Another possible hurdle are rifts between the islands in the aftermath of the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II and Guam's perceived rejection of reunification in 1969.

Farrell said this rejection is a myth. "It was screw up of mythical proportions."

He said the timing was bad as Guam was already getting its first governor and people were afraid of subsidizing the underdeveloped Northern Marianas. Another factor is some Guamanians still cannot forget Japanese Chamorros serving as translators and policemen in Guam during the war.

But a united Marianas also doesn't need to look far for a successful integration of island units, Farrell said.

"Hawaii has different governments and villages in how many different islands. To them, it's an additive. Not everything belongs to Oahu. Maui, Hilo… those islands are big contributors to the state of Hawaii. So that opportunity is still there."

Farrell is the first to admit that times have changed. He said in the 1950s and 1960s, both Guam and the Northern Marianas were underdeveloped and primarily Chamorro populations.

However beginning in the 1970s, both Guam and the CNMI greatly improved their standards of living as foreign investment and immigration laws changed and financial dynamics in the demographics of the islands also changed.

"Some suggest that the time for reunification has passed. Many people, particularly the business community, seem satisfied with the status quo and are indifferent to the indignity of 'unincorporated' status.

"Some say the separate governments for Guam and the Northern Marianas have become institutionalized; that the political leaders on Guam and in the NMI will not make the sacrifices that would be required to create one elected government for all Mariana residents. Guam Gov. Felix Camacho and CNMI Gov. Benigno Fitial both spoke in favor of reunification, just not during their terms—one of the two would lose his job!"

Farrell said many Guamanians, especially the younger generations, also point to the CNMI Covenant, with its imbedded concept of mutual consent, as a significantly better political status than Guam's unilateral Organic Act.

"They remember that a pledge was made to give Guam commonwealth status. That historical precedent could serve as the basis for a new political status movement for Guam. Others just want to be able to travel and do business freely between Guam and the Northern Marianas, without fighting through two different sets of laws and regulations. Many believe the cost of two separate governments within the Marianas is a foolish waste of money and aggravation."

Many in Guam and the Northern Marianas point to the military buildup in the Marianas as ultimately a reunifying factor.

"After all, it was the Department of Defense's perceived need for a fallback base for Okinawa that drove forward the Northern Marianas political status movement. Today's U.S.-Japan security alliance still calls for moving the 3rd Marine Division from Okinawa to the Marianas. It seems logical that having one bargaining team dealing with Marianas military issues will get a better deal out of the Department of Defense than two different groups negotiating separately," Farrell said.

RELIEF

From Page 1

Check releases continue today and the days ahead.

"Holding the check in my hand gives me a sense of relief. I'm thankful we're able to get what we put in, minus the interest. I will be saving most of it for what it was saved for—retirement. I am thinking about buying stocks or putting it in TCD," Luise Quitugua Noisom, a registered nurse at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., told *Saipan Tribune* moments after she got her check from the Retirement Fund building on Capital Hill yesterday morning.

Noisom, a mother of five, said she's also looking into becoming a member of social security.

"I am going to invest most of what I received for my retirement. Some of it I will use for fixing my car, renovating the house," the 56-year-old CHC nurse said.

Noisom, who has worked at CHC for 24 years, said she's still hopeful that the CNMI government "will find a way to pay the interest."

With her 24-year government service, Noisom put in a substantial amount of contribution to the Fund—and got most of it yesterday.

While she'll make sure to set aside most of what she got for her later years, Noisom worries about the others who might have different priorities for their money.

"It is their money but I hope they will really save most, if not all of it, for their retirement. When Fund released refunds a few months ago, I saw a lot who bought new cars and bought a lot of things. I know it's their money and they can spend it any way they want to, but I worry they won't have anything left by the time they retire," she added.

One Fund member said he started seeing people as early as 7:15am at the Fund building, waiting for the 8am start of the release of checks yesterday.

"I rolled over everything to my 401(k) for my retirement. I hope many others will also do the same. I worry that if I don't roll it over to a 401(k), I might not have anything when I retire from government," one of them said.

Some of those who got their checks said they didn't want their names to published in the newspaper, concerned that their relatives would start asking them for money.

Steve Lee, of San Vicente, said he went to pick up his wife's check "because she can't leave work."

"It's about time the government release these checks to the members before everything is gone. It's up to my wife how she wants to spend it but I heard her say she wants to renovate the house," Lee said.

Mila B. Tan, a nurse at CHC since 2001, said she's "very glad" to get her DB contribution which she will strictly use for her retirement.

"At my age, I'm 57, I'm already thinking about going home to the Philippines. I plan to do farming, raise poultry," she said.

Tan said the first refund check she got has been safely set aside, and the same will be done for the rest of the refunds she got yesterday.

She said financial discipline and proper budgeting, along with investments, would spell the difference when it comes to making the refunds last through their retirement years.

"The first check, I didn't touch it. I saved everything," she added.

Maria S. Camacho, of Dandan, said she picked up her son-in-law's check from the Retirement Fund and she expects that most of it will go to her son-in-law's medical expenses.

"He is currently in Honolulu, Hawaii on medical referral. He would need this money. I'm happy that he's finally got it," Camacho said.

Another CHC nurse, Mila Cultura, said she's happy to finally get her DB contribution to the Fund.

"We still have an unstable economy, and as foreign worker, we still have unstable immigration status. What if they send us home after 2014? But the first refund check I got, I saved everything. With this second check, I will also save most of it for retirement and the rest, for the future of my children, for their education," the mother of three said.

Alex Sablan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said member businesses "are expecting a windfall" as a result of the Fund's disbursement of over $40 million to members.

He said days prior to the actual release of the checks and direct deposits, some businesses have already reported "vehicles being purchased" and "accounts being settled," among other things.

"These are all positive signs. The money is circulating in the economy. The multiplier effect of $40 million is huge," he said.

But Sablan is also "hopeful" that those who got their refunds would "reinvest in some type of 401(k)" or similar programs for their retirement years.

Acting Senate president Victor Hocog (R-Rota) shares this sentiment. He hopes that people who received their checks or direct deposits will exercise "utmost care" and think about their retirement years.

"It's already expected that there will be a lot of economic activities when you have $40 million in the hands of people within days. But if they want to invest in their retirement and invest in their children's future, this is the right time to do that," he said.

Hocog said as of 4pm, 35 on Rota had already picked up their checks, while seven had yet to be picked up because most of them were off-island yesterday.

"And 154 also on Rota got their direct deposits," he said.

As of 8pm last night, Fund in-house legal counsel Viola Alepuyo said that 524 checks were released on Saipan. On Rota, all but seven were distributed, while on Tinian all but one were issued.

Alepuyo earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that there are a total of 1,710 recipients: 1,372 on Saipan, 141 on Tinian, and 197 on Rota.

Alepuyo said 708 are checks and the rests are ACH (automated clearing house).

Public Law 17-82 allows Fund members to withdraw the full amount of their contributions without separating from the government. Public Law 18-2, meanwhile, compels the Fund to release up to 50 percent of members' contributions within 30 days of submitting a refund application.

A joint resolution that the House and Senate adopted on Friday paved the way for the Fund's disbursement of over $40 million in remaining defined benefit plan employee contributions.

Some $10 million were disbursed following the preliminary approval of a global settlement agreement in *Johnson v Inos* on Aug. 6 in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Under the agreement, the remaining $42 million will be released after the court's final approval of the settlement agreement and then after legislative approval. Designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood gave the final approval on Sept. 30.

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DPS, G4S sign MOU to create intelligence sharing partnership

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety and G4S Secure Solutions (CNMI) have agreed to share information and security assistance to protect the Commonwealth against acts of terrorism and to solve criminal cases.

» G4S donates 2 more mountain bikes, 16 surveillance cameras

DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Mike Ross, G4S Secure Solutions for Guam, CNMI and the Philippines managing director, forged a memorandum of understanding that will create the CNMI Intelligence Sharing and Security Assistance Partnership, or ISSAP.

At the MOU signing, Ross also announced the company's donation of two mountain bikes and 16 surveillance cameras to DPS.

G4S had promised to donate five police bicycles to DPS. The company turned over to DPS three bikes in July.

The installation of eight of the 16 surveillance cameras inside the DPS perimeter began Tuesday. Two of the cameras are already functional.

Deleon Guerrero and Ross underscored the importance of the creation of ISSAP to protect the CNMI against potential acts of terrorism and other crimes.

The MOU will essentially give DPS access to G4S surveillance cameras to solve crimes and deter potential terrorist acts.

Deleon Guerrero said the partnership is really in the area of sharing information. He said G4S has invested a lot in technology, particularly surveillance cameras, in providing services to many businesses in the Commonwealth.

"We want to be able to have access to those materials as far as law enforcement investigation [is concerned]," he said

Ross said the company is pleased to continue helping DPS and the community. He said they want to share their technology to help DPS and expressed hope that the partnership will further strengthen.

Under the MOU, the DPS commissioner shall appoint a program coordinator for the ISSAP, holding the rank of police officer 3 or higher. The ISSAP coordinator shall serve as the official DPS point of contact and shall serve no less than two years.

Under the MOU, Ross agrees to share criminal intelligence information deemed necessary to achieve public safety goals in the CNMI, give access to video footages when available whenever requested for purposes of achieving law enforcement goals.

G4S will also notify DPS of suspicious individuals or activities that may warrant law enforcement attention.

Present at the MOU signing were Police Sgts. Joe Saures and Jeffrey Olopai, and Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero. From G4S were country manager Chris Garde, Care and Justice director Frank Ishizaki, and branch manager Moises Pangelinan.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero, left, receives two more mountain bikes that G4S donated to DPS yesterday. G4S also donated 16 surveillance cameras to DPS. Also in the photo, from left, are G4S Mike Ross, Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero, G4S Marianas country manager Chris Garde, G4S branch manager Moises Pangelinan, and G4S Care & Justice director Frank Ishizaki.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, October 31st, 2013 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan
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A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of September 19th, 2013 minutes
5. Public Comments

B. Public Hearings
1. **Conditional Use Application #2013-0472.** The Healthy Farmers, LLC is proposing to operate an Aquaponics farm system that combines hydroponic and aquaculture farming techniques. This use is classified as Aquaculture (Commercial) and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located in Obyan, on lots 036 L 81/ 82 & 88. These areas are zoned as Rural.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2013-0498.** The Blue Spot Corporation is proposing to operate a heavy equipment repair and rental/ general maintenance business. This use is classified as Vehicle Repair, General and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located on lot 549-2-4-4 in San Antonio on Afetna Road. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.
1. Update on Saipan Adult Gambling Machine Business (Poker) law of 2013, authored by Representative Ray A. Tebuteb, 18th CNMI Legislature
2. Update on Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013, authored by Representative Larry I. Deleon Guerrero, 18th CNMI Legislature

E. New Business
1. Office operations report

E. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE

TO: LEWIS T. AND MARY ANN TENORIO:

You are in default in your Promissory Note dated May 10, 2006, secured by a Leasehold Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot 011 G 574, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 11, the original of which was recorded on December 3, 1993 as Document No. 93-4179 at the Office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

(b)	Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage:	May 10, 2006; $80,000.00
(c)	Amount due for principal:	$275.91 as of August 11, 2013
(d)	Amount due for interest:	$1,485.12 as of August 11, 2013
(e)	Daily accruing interest:	$16.336
(f)	Late charges	$70.50 as of August 11, 2013
(g)	Amount due for Escrow deposit:	$105.00

If the principal, interest, escrow payments, and late charges $1,936.53 as of August 11, 2013, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different form the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Señot yan Señora Tenorio:

Ti un komple i kontratan debimu (Promissory Note) ni un fitma gi Mayo dia 10, 2006, ni afabobot i Mortgage ma asegurao i tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeneň (mortgaged):

Sito Numera 001 G 574, ni gaigi Saipan, Note Marianas, mas patikulamente ma discribi gi Drawing/Cadastral Plat numero 001 G11, i orihinat ma rehistra gi fecha Disembre dia 3, 1993 komo Documento numero 93-4179 giya i Ofisinan Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

(b)	I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña:	Mayo dia 10, 2006, $80,000.00
(c)	Kantida un dibi para principat:	$275.81 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(d)	Kantida un dibi para interes:	$1,485.12 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(e)	Interes kada dia:	$16.336
(f)	Apas pot atrasao (late charges):	$70.50 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(g)	Kantida un dibi para Escrow:	$105.00

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) $1,936.53, yan i resanable na apas abugado gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma dendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi BankPacific.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na notisia yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'i hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera-sina bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este I dibi-mu.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
October 10, 2013

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
for
Blue Spot Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. The Blue Spot Corporation is proposing to operate a heavy equipment repair and rental/ general maintenance business. This use is classified as Vehicle Repair, General and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located on lot 549-2-4-4 in San Antonio on Afetna Road. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: October 31st, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, October 30th, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
for
Healthy Farmers, LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. The Healthy Farmers, LLC is proposing to operate an Aquaponics farm system that combines hydroponic and aquaculture farming techniques. This use is classified as Aquaculture (Commercial) and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be located in Obyan, on lots 036 L 81/ 82 & 88. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Date: October 31st, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, October 30th, 2013. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Marianas Best Chicharon spruces up its packaging

MARK RABAGO

L&M Enterprises' Lito and Malou Mendoza pose with their tocino, longanisa, roasted peanuts, and pork-crackling products at their manufacturing facility in Finasisu.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI's iconic pork-crackling product—Marianas Best Chicahron—now comes in a new red packaging that replaces its dated wrapping.

According to L&M Enterprises owner Lito and Malou Mendoza, they updated the packaging to make it more attractive.

Lito said the new packaging also has a more tropical and island feel than the previous design, with several drawings of coconut trees livening it up.

The couple also would like to assure the public that Marianas Best Chicharon still tastes the same and retains its high quality.

Malou said they recently received a lot of calls and text messages from friends telling them about a new pork-crackling product on the market. She quickly reassured them that it's actually Marianas Best Chicharon, albeit with a new, more modern packaging.

The makeover is not even finished yet. Lito instructed his supplier to use a redder hue to color the packaging as the current color of Marianas Best Chicharon leans toward the maroon side.

Malou said L&M Enterprises may finally push through with its plan to expand to Guam by next year. She said it's a perfect time to peddle their tocino, longanisa, roasted peanuts, and pork-crackling products to the U.S. territory since their youngest daughter, Chandelle, currently resides there.

The two also admitted that unlike three or four years ago, sales of their meat and *chicharon* products have waned. Malou attributes this to fewer Filipinos on the islands, which makes up the bulk of their clientele.

Lito, however, hopes that with the local economy finally showing signs of life, businesses will finally recover from the past year's downturn.

Malou said their products have also created a following among the Commonwealth's indigenous population and other nationalities, who seem to have also developed a liking to salty and crispy snack.

The Mendozas established L&M Enterprises in 1985 with Filipino meat products—Gusto Tocino and Gusto Longanisa.

To date, the company is the only U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved tocino and longanisa maker in the CNMI.

In 1997, L&M Enterprises introduced peanuts and two years later started retailing pork cracklings.

The Mendozas also own Tropex Garden and Traders Insurance Inc., which were established in 1990 and 1997, respectively.

COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

Zoning…

To improve your quality of life!

We extend our SPECIAL THANKS to the Honorable Governor Eloy S. Inos, members of the 18th Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resource Management, Dept. of Public Lands, Dept. of Public Works, Dept. of Lands & Natural Resources, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Public School System, Chamber of Commerce, the business community, residents, and the general public…

On May 31st, 2013, the 18th Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation adopted the new and improved Saipan Zoning Law of 2013… on July 15th, 2013, the Honorable Governor Eloy S. Inos approved and signed it into law.

These are the summarized changes:

- ✔ Single family homes are now allowed in all districts, except within the Industrial zone.
- ✔ Your signed Home Business application is your permit to begin business (if there are no external changes to buildings or if no products will be sold from the house)
- ✔ "Mom and Pop" grocery stores, barber shops, bookstores, flower shops, daycares, offices, small scale catering, apartments, restaurants, and small aquaculture projects that meet certain requirements are permitted in Village Residential districts or allowed as conditional uses… to encourage more walkable neighborhoods.
- ✔ Fence heights have been raised to 10 feet to allow for greater security for residents, provided that the fence allows the public to view the other side and is made of appropriate materials that do not detract from the appearance of the neighborhood.
- ✔ Certain industrial uses, including manufacturing, warehousing, and junkyards have been confined to Industrial and Mixed Commercial districts and removed as permitted uses in "Rural" areas. A new category of use, "Intensive Outdoor Amusement," which would include race tracks and carnivals previously included in the category of Outdoor Amusement, has been created as a conditional use in Rural areas. Marpi has been designated as a special rural area, and many uses ordinarily permitted in rural areas are not permitted in the Marpi area.
- ✔ The law requires additional screening for gas stations and vehicle repair (auto shops) where these businesses operate in more sensitive zoning districts. In addition, a 3 foot setbacks for fire safety have been added in districts which previously allowed for building all the way up to the lot line.
- ✔ Beauty Salons and Spas (Massage Parlors). The law has been clarified to ensure that legitimate beauty salons and spas do not fall within the definition of adult business as a result of offering massage services. Similarly, traditional massage in the home is not considered an adult business.
- ✔ Parking and Sidewalks. Required sidewalks in specified areas have been made narrower and less expensive for developers. Required sidewalks are now 4 and 6 feet wide rather than 8 and 12 feet wide. In addition, the Zoning Administrator has been given more discretion regarding parking requirements for new buildings.
- ✔ Cargo Containers. Proposed revisions to the law prohibit using containers as fencing but allow for use as permanent storage when properly screened from public view. Cargo containers may be transformed into residential structures provided that they are architecturally altered to reduce their industrialized appearance by providing windows and doors, and other features such as open porch areas.
- ✔ Temporary Batch Plants. Requirements for temporary batch plants for concrete and asphalt necessary for construction projects are spelled out in detail. Batch plants may not be within 150 feet of a structure or use not associated with the construction project. If the temporary site is not within 150 feet of a public use, the applicant may seek permission of all nearby persons with an interest in the surrounding properties to operate the temporary batch plant within the setback area. No temporary use shall exceed a maximum of 45 days. Temporary Batch Plants are not allowed in Village Residential and Village Commercial zoning districts.
- ✔ Submissions of Applications for a Zoning Permit. Anyone with a legal interest in the land may apply for a zoning permit. It is unnecessary to get everyone with a legal interest in the property to agree to apply for a permit. This change should help to insure that permit applications are processed quickly.
- ✔ Following lots have been rezoned in the new Saipan Zoning Law of 2013: (up to 300 feet from the center line of the road)

These major thoroughfares have been rezoned to "Village Commercial" districts: Chalan Pale Arnold, Navy Hill Road, Sugar King Road (part), Isa Drive (part), Kagman Road (part), Chalan Mnsgr. Guerrero (near NMC and Dandan Joeten), Chalan Mnsgr. Martinez (As Lito Road), Dandan Road (part), As Gonno (Tun Kiyoshi Road), As Perdido Road (intersection at Hopwood Jr. High School towards airport), and Chalan Tun Herman Pan (near Herman's Bakery). The Board has also added more "Mixed Commercial" areas by the airport, around the intersection of Koblerville Road and Chalan Mnsgr. Martinez, and on Chalan Mnsgr. Guerrero from the intersection of Chalan Pale Arnold to As Terlaje.

The changes to the improved law will be presented to the general public on the following dates from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Please join us to understand more:

Tuesday, October 29, 2013	**Multipurpose Center, Susupe**
Tuesday, November 05, 2013	**Tanapag Elementary School**
Thursday, November 07, 2013	**Kagman High School, Cafeteria**
Thursday, November 14, 2013	**Hopwood Jr. High School, Cafeteria**
Tuesday, November 19, 2013	**Dandan Elementary School, Cafeteria**

For further information and assistance, please call 234-9661or visit our office on the 2nd floor of Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

We additionally ask for your continued support and patience as we prepare to present to you Zoning's new website and printed copies of the 2013 Saipan Zoning Law in the next few days.

/s/ The Commonwealth Zoning Board & Zoning Office

Judge dismisses charges vs 2 men in 'ice' trafficking case

»Judge urges AG, DPS to investigate as evidence may have been substituted

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed yesterday all charges against two men accused of trafficking of methamphetamine or "ice" after the prosecution admitted on the third day of the jury trial that there was a mistake as the evidence may have been substituted.

Camacho urged Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas and Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero to look into this matter.

Camacho granted defense counsels Bruce Berline's and assistant public defender Matthew Meyer's motion to acquit their clients, Le Xiang Chen and Yuhua Wang.

The judge dismissed the charges of trafficking of a controlled substance and conspiracy to commit trafficking of controlled substance against Chen and Wang.

Camacho said that without the illegal controlled substance, it is impossible to find the two guilty of the charges.

Camacho

Camacho said that after three days of trial, it has been discovered that no one knows what happened to the "ice" that was seized in 2010.

The trial has already heard testimonies from six witnesses: five law enforcement officers and one confidential informant.

"The 'ice' was stored in a locked safe at DPS. It appears that the package in which the 'ice' was kept was tampered; the original package may have been substituted with fake evidence," the judge said.

Camacho lamented the amount of wasted time and resources of the Judiciary, DPS, Office of the Attorney General, defense attorneys, and the jurors.

Camacho said the OAG and DPS owe these jurors, the court, and the CNMI community an apology.

Assistant attorneys general Barbara Cepeda and Chemere McField apologized to the jurors and the court.

Cepeda said their job is to find justice. She said when they found it was not right to proceed with the trial, they wanted to do the right thing.

Cepeda said because of error, the evidence might be tampered.

The prosecutors informed the court about the error after the government rested its case. Defense counsels then moved for judgment of acquittal. The prosecutors did not oppose the motion.

Police said the sting operation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Task Force using a confidential informant who purchased $200 worth of "ice" on Feb. 27, 2010, led to the arrest and filing of charges against Wang and Chen.

Lekima intensifies into a supertyphoon

Typhoon Lekima intensified into a supertyphoon while making its nearest approach to the Northern Islands Wednesday night.

As of 7pm Wednesday, the center of Supertyphoon Lekima was 305 miles east-northeast of Pagan, 415 miles northeast of Saipan and Tinian, 300 miles east of Agrihan, and 310 miles east-northeast of Alamagan.

Maximum sustained winds remain at 160 miles per hour and is moving toward the west-northwest at 15 mph, according to the National Weather Service in Guam. A gradual turn to the northwest with no change in forward speed are expected through today, followed by a northward turn this evening.

Lekima's typhoon force winds extend out up to 65 miles from the center and tropical storm force winds extend up to 145 miles.

The forecast is that by Thursday morning, the supertyphoon's center will be northwest of the Northern Islands.

Lekima is producing high seas in the CNMI.

NWS advised that interisland travel by boat should be delayed until seas have settled back down.

"Take any necessary action to protect property near the shore such as crops as hazardous surf may also produce 1 to 2 feet of coastal inundation especially along north and east facing reefs," the agency said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Weather delays on-site, network repair work

As the CNMI experiences heavy rains in the heart of the rainy season, IT&E requests patience and understanding from customers who are experiencing service outages.

Due to the high volume of rain and difficulty working with electrical circuits, IT&E technicians have been unable to assist customers as expediently as they have throughout the year. The nature of reconnection work precludes IT&E technicians from working in downpour conditions, leading some IT&E landline customers to experience service interruptions that last longer than customers have typically come to expect.

According to IT&E Plant Technical Service manager Velma Palacios, delays caused by the CNMI's rainy season are nothing new to companies that operate in the Marianas.

"We experience these weather-related delays this time every year," said Palacios. "While the satisfaction of our customers is among our top priorities, we place the safety of our employees above all else."

IT&E appreciates the patience and understanding of all our valued customers while IT&E technicians and service crews work to restore service.

For more information or to report a service outage, contact IT&E Customer Care at 682-4ITE (4483). ***(IT&E)***

Public warned of high surf and hazardous seas today

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management warned yesterday that a small craft advisory for hazardous seas remains in effect until 6pm today, Thursday.

An east to northeast swell generated by Supertyphoon Lekima will result in combined seas building to 10 to 12 feet in Tinian and Saipan waters, producing hazardous conditions for operators of small craft. Seas are expected to fall below 10 feet Thursday night.

A high surf advisory is also in effect until 3pm today.

Hazardous surf of 7 to 9 feet is expected to persist along north facing reefs through at least Thursday afternoon as a reinforcing shot of north swell from Supertyphoon Lekima will maintain hazardous surf along north facing reefs for a little longer.

Mariners should avoid shoaling areas where long period swell can sharpen into large breaking waves. It is not unusual for waves to break much farther from shoaling areas than is normally experienced. Remember, breaking waves can easily capsize even larger vessels.

The public is advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along west and north facing reefs as rip currents will be life threatening. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution, especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. ***(PR)***

Ever thought of a Career in Healthcare?

Are you outgoing, bright and friendly?

YOU MAY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO JOIN THE TEAM AS A MEDICAL BILLING ASSISTANT AT MARIANAS EYE INSTITUTE!

We prefer previous experience in this field.

Requirements:	Benefits:
• US Citizens or IR Status	• Competitive salary
• High school diploma with a GPA or 3.3 or higher	• Health Insurance
• Police Clearance	• Life Insurance
• Computer Skills	• Dental Insurance
• Credit Check	• Retirement Plan
• Bright and friendly	• Productivity Bonuses
• Letter of recommendation from previous employer	• Profit Sharing
	• Generous Leave Benefits
	• Paid Holidays

Great work environment, great benefits!
Apply in person at…

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
www.MarianasEye.com
Garapan, across from 13 Fisherman Monument
No Phone Calls Please

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Claims Officer
College graduate with a Bachelor's Degree preferably in Business Management with 10 years experience in a non-life insurance company particularly in the Claims Department. Must be knowledgeable in automotive, marine, casualty, worker's compensation, and property damage adjusting and estimation. Responsible for the evaluation, monitoring and adjustment of claims in accordance with the company practices and procedures. Must also be knowledgeable on reinsurance and have the ability to interpret statistical information for reinsurance purposes. Must have excellent customer service skills, time management, written and oral communication skills. Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs.

General Manager
Bachelor's Degree plus 10 years experience in the insurance business, at least 5 years of that as a general or operations manager in an insurance company. Must possess experience in managing technical underwriting including actual undertaking of risk analysis through risk survey and/or inspections of huge risks. Must have experience in managing reinsurance transactions with reinsurance brokers and reinsurers which involves undertaking of PML, Catastrophe Modeling, Setting Company Risk Retention. Must also be experienced in managing insurance claims handling including setting up of loss reserves in overseeing Claims Manager functions.

Supervisor, Underwriting & Claims
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree plus 5 years of work experience in insurance business particularly in claims, underwriting, and reinsurance. Must also have knowledge, skills and ability to analyze and manipulate enterprise risk management. Must possess above average communication skills, a working knowledge of MS Word and Excel and the insurance software Geniisys. Must be willing to take cross-functional assignments and adapt to changes necessary for the effective functioning of the organization's business operations.

Accountant
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial management and payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, Geniisys and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

System Analyst
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/Technology or Management Information Systems with a minimum 4 years experience in computer systems and programming. Must possess a broad knowledge and experience in computer systems, strong problem-solving and analytical skills, and the ability to think logically. Must have knowledge in Oracle server and programming, and a strong experience in insurance database and program – Geniisys and an in-depth experience in insurance business operations. Must have good interpersonal and communication skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Management Accountant (2)
College degree with accounting or financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in analyzing, interpreting and providing sound financial information. Must be adept in monthly financial statement preparation and consolidation, cash flow forecasting, budgeting, and providing financial projections. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self-management skills. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft Excel, Power Point and Project. CPA not required.

Housekeeper (4)
High school diploma or GED Certificate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Administrative Assistant (5)
Associate's Degree. Must be proficient in typing and good at written and oral communication. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in property management and building maintenance. Knowledge of lease negotiations plus financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic
Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

Electrician
High school diploma or GED certificate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, maintaining, and/or repairing electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Must have knowledge of electrical codes, intercom and electrical control systems. Must be able to work flexible hours.

General Maintenance Worker (11)
High school diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; standard practices and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities. Must be able to work flexible hours. Can work outdoors.

Network Administration Manager
Associate's degree in any computer science, information engineering or other computer technology related areas. Must have at least 5 years of sound experience in local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, planning, designing, implementation, and user support. Must have knowledge in MS Exchange Email Server.

Engineering Manager
Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering with at least 5 years of progressive management experience. Ability to successfully develop, implement and manage projects including the ability to provide effective leadership is a must. Adeptness in cost estimation and knowledge of quality control and federal regulations in environmental and occupational safety hazards is required. The duties of this job require constant outside travel and exposure to outside weather conditions. Must be able to provide his/her own transportation and must have a valid driver's license.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Must be able to prepare management and sales reports and is proficient in various MS office software operations. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Legal Secretary (2)
Associates degree and at least 2 years work related experience in a legal office. Proficient in case and document management software, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Power Point and Outlook. Familiar in preparation and filing of pleadings and legal documents.

IT Manager
College degree with a major in computer science, computer technology or information engineering or other related areas is required. At least 5 years of progressive management experience and 8 years of sound and all-around IT technical experience is required. Must have well-developed written/oral and management skills and with a strong background in all IT hardware, software and communication business requirements.

Computer Technician
Associate's degree in any computer science, information technology or other related areas. Must have at least 3 years of sound experience in electronics and communication systems with emphasis on the repair of computer equipment and installation of telephone cables/systems. Must be knowledgeable in different software applications and in hardware troubleshooting. Must be able to work flexible hours.

Graphic Designer
Associate's degree in Fine Arts, Graphic Design or other related areas. Minimum of 3 years work experience in creating graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, depending on demand.

Programmer Analyst (2)
Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Accounting Manager
College degree with financial management major and 5 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software.

Accounting Supervisor
A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a focus in accounting and/or finance. 2-3 years of progressive responsibility supervising a minimum of 3 associates. CPA/CPA candidate a plus. Audit experience also preferred. Must have knowledge with the use of SAP R3 FICO System and SAP Fixed Asset Module. Microsoft Office proficiency with advanced knowledge of Excel is a must.

Accountant (2)
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Governor's Humanities Awards tonight at PIC

The 2013 Governor's Humanities Awards will be held at 6pm tonight at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Northern Marianas Humanities Council executive director Scott Russell said that 10 nominations were received by the organization for this year's awards.

"The awards allow the council, in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, to recognize outstanding contributions to the humanities made by individuals in our community," he said.

Awardees will be presented with inscribed plaques.

Tonight's program will also include remarks by Gov. Eloy S. Inos and council chair David J. Attao, poetry recitals by the winners of last night's 10th Annual Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition, recognition of the Council's donors and partners.

The event is held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month.

Awardees are recognized for notable achievement in four categories: Research and Publication in the Humanities; Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices; Preservation of CNMI History; and Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).

A fifth category, Lifetime Achievement, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

The 2012 awardees included Dr. Keith L. Camacho, Tita A. Hocog, Tonny Y. Goobad, Carmen S. Taimanao, and Catherine R. Perry, and Agnes M. McPhetres.

For more information about tonight's 2013 Governor's Humanities Awards, contact council staff at 235-4785. ***(Mark Rabago)***

Resolution seeks support for Guam veterans

GUAM—At the beginning of next year, 600 Guam soldiers will return home from Operation Enduring Freedom. At the beginning of next year, 293 heroes will return and they will be unemployed.

Yesterday, Sen. Aline A.Yamashita, Ph.D., introduced Resolution 261-32 to begin dialogue to help these citizen soldiers, airmen, and all service members who have recently been honorably discharged or returned from deployment receive some form of unemployment compensation as they search for work and try to get back on their feet.

The measure seeks to have the U.S. Department of Labor consider Guam as a state in order to become a part of the federally-funded Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers program, or UCX.

"As the island community strengthens its efforts to identify the actual number of veterans who have returned to our island, this resolution is a step to provide similar opportunities to veterans who return to other home communities" said Yamashita. "In other jurisdictions, to include states and Puerto Rico,Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers is provided to help veterans and families re-integrate into their communities. This resolution is asking that our veterans be treated the same as other veterans."

Currently, UCX is available in all 50 US States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. ***(PR)***

Soroptimist charter celebration on Sunday

Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer organization for business and professional women, recently chartered a new club in the CNMI. The organization's mission is to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.

Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands, or SI NMI, will charter with 18 members who represent professions including banking, retail, airlines, government sector, etc.

The charter celebration will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2013, at the Kanoa Resort Saipan from 11am to 2pm. Tickets are being sold for $35 per person.

Jill Arenovski from Seafix, Inc. will be installed as the club's first president. "These are women in our community who wish to contribute their time to helping other women," Arenovski said. "Our club has set out to enhance the status of women and girls, both locally and globally."

SI NMI charter members was sponsored by the Guam-based club, Soroptimist International of the Marianas, SI Marianas, and will join Soroptimists in more than 100 countries and territories worldwide who contribute time and financial support to community-based projects that benefit women and girls.

Soroptimist's major project, the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards, provides women who serve as the primary wage earners for their families with financial resources to offset costs associated with their efforts to attain higher education or additional skills and training. In addition, the club will create projects in collaboration with other organizations within the CNMI which cater to women & girls.

For more information about Soroptimist International Northern Mariana Islands, contact Arenovski at (670) 287-9395 or sinorthernmarianaislands@soroptimist.net. ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting individuals to apply for the following positions:

Circulations Coordinator
Associates degree with a minimum of 2 years progressively responsible work experience. Requirements include professional customer service and good driving skills. Must be able to routinely lift and move bundles of newspapers up to 50 lbs.

Reporter (2)
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, October 31, 2013.

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB14-GOV-006

Replacement of Fire Pumps at the Commonwealth Health Center – Garapan, Saipan

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider are soliciting sealed bids for supply, installation and commissioning of the fire pumps replaced at the Commonwealth Health Center – Garapan, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available Friday, October 25, 2013 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference/site visit for this project on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, 9:00AM ChST at the Commonwealth Health Center Telemetry Room. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST November 12, 2013 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB14-GOV-006, Replacement of Fire Pumps at the Commonwealth Health Center"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 25, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 25, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 25, 2013 and must be received no later than December 4, 2013 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST December 5, 2013. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:00 AM ChST November 25, 2013.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

IP&E
Fueling Excellence

Mariana Acquisition Corporation
IP&E Saipan

IP&E Saipan is accepting applications for the following positions:

Accountant
Qualifications: Minimum 10 years of consecutive and progressive practical experience in the application of accounting practices and a college degree in Accountancy; experience in the petroleum industry is highly desirable. Candidate must be able to: examine, analyze and interpret accounting records to prepare financial statements, give advice or audit and evaluate statements prepared by others; Develop, implement, modify and document recordkeeping and accounting systems, making use of current computer technology; Compute both local and federal taxes owed and ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements; Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues to project future revenues and expenses; Report to management regarding the finances of the business. Requires advance proficiency in computer skills, specifically with Microsoft Excel; have the ability to resolve discrepancies and work under pressure of time-sensitive tasks. Requires integrity and accuracy; must be willing to work flexible hours.

Business Support Assistant
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years of consecutive accounting experience in the application of accounting practices; knowledge and experience in JDE software systems; classify, record and summarize financial data to compile and update financial records using journals and computers; debit, credit and total accounts on computer spreadsheets using specialized accounting software; receive, record and deposit accounts receivables received. Must be highly proficiency in computer skills, specifically with Microsoft Excel; have the ability to multi-task and occasionally work under pressure and time-sensitive tasks. Requires integrity, and accuracy; must be willing to work flexible hours.

Dispatcher
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years practical experience in dispatching and effective scheduling; monitoring driver locations and delivery confirmations; prepare daily delivey schedules and related documentation; understand local roadways and hazards; excellent communication and interpersonal relations skills; ability to multi-task and work under pressure; high proficiency in computer skills, specifically Microsoft Excel. Requires attention to detail.

Terminal Operator
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years experience in petroleum pump operations; excellent safety history; excellent interpersonal relations skills; knowledge of mathematic applications; ability to detect and manage hazards. Requires solid understanding of fuels chemistry basics and ability to work flexible schedules.

Tanker Driver
Qualifications: minimum 5 years experience in hauling of fuel and/or operating heavy goods vehicles; ability to read; ability to compute basic formulas; ability to detect and manage hazards. Requires solid understanding of fuels chemistry basics and ability to work flexible schedules.

Interested individuals who meet the requirements of a position may apply at IP&E Saipan, located at the Puerto Rico Terminal Office on Industrial Drive. Applications will be accepted through Thurday, October 31, 2013.

IP&E Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

By JERRY ELLIG
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Jerry Ellig is a senior research fellow with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. Readers may write to him at: Mercatus Center, 3351 Fairfax Drive, 4th Floor, Arlington, Va. 22201; website: www.mercatus.org.

Health insurance mandates show why regulatory reform is needed

With implementation of the Affordable Care Act now in full swing, more and more people are discovering that they cannot buy health insurance comparable to what they previously had—or not at a comparable price. One culprit is a mandate in the ACA that all health insurance must cover "essential health benefits," whether the customer wants all of this coverage or not. To add insult to injury, the government's own analysis counts this reduction in consumer choice as a benefit rather than a cost!

For more than three decades, presidents issued executive orders telling federal agencies to conduct "regulatory impact analysis" to assess the likely effects of major proposed regulations. Yet the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) analysis accompanying the regulation that implements the ACA's essential health benefits mandate reads like an advocacy piece written to support the regulation. This is a predictable result when an administration wants to implement a mandate at top speed. To promote objectivity, the law should require regulatory impact analysis, and the analysis should be subject to judicial review.

The regulation on essential health benefits is a prime example of why such regulatory reform is needed. In its analysis accompanying this regulation, HHS cites three studies that find health insurance contracts to be so complicated that consumers have trouble understanding them. The logical solution, according to HHS, is to take away a lot of choices by requiring consumers to buy coverage they may not want.

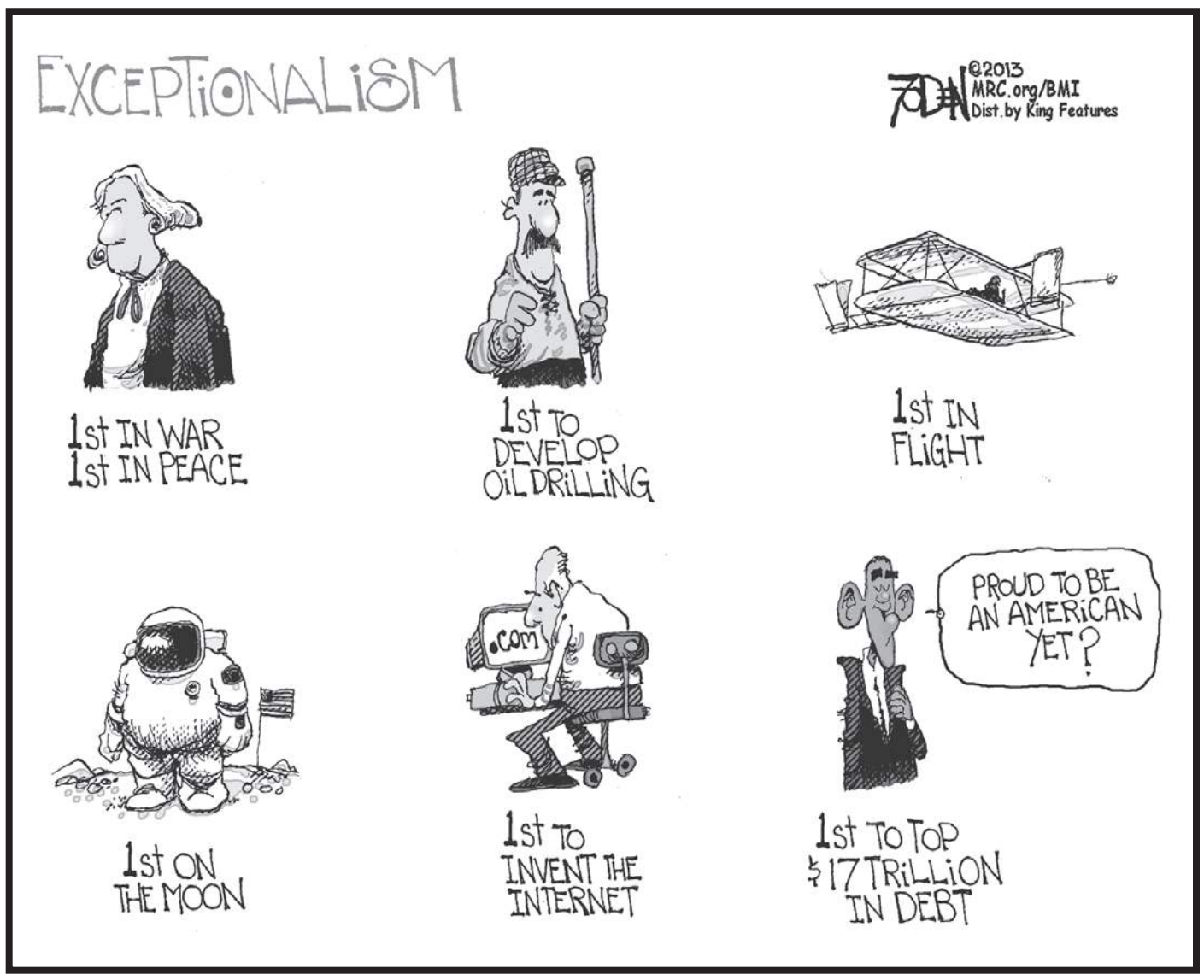
As a result, teetotalers must belly up to the bar to pay for substance abuse treatment coverage—and I don't think that means caffeine. Gay men may be unhappy to learn that their premiums are now higher to cover the costs of pregnancy and birth. Empty nesters must spend some of their nest egg on pediatric dental coverage. And people who rationally decided that mental health coverage wasn't worth the cost to them must now buy it anyway.

But there's one silver lining: mandated coverage of preventive care means colonoscopies for all! That's an appropriate metaphor for the "essential health benefits" mandate, since it violates our privacy and cleans out our wallets at the same time.

Health insurers are telling at least 146,000 Michiganders that their policies will be discontinued because they do not meet the "essential health benefits" requirements. About 130,000 Blue Cross customers in North Carolina will either face large premium increases or also see their plans dropped. A 60-year-old retired schoolteacher who will pay $1,800 more annually for an individual policy told the San Jose Mercury News, "Of course, I want people to have health care. I just didn't realize I was going to be the one who was going to pay for it personally."

The package of "essential health benefits" offered in each state is supposed to reflect the services and limits in a "typical employer plan" in that state. The regulatory impact analysis ac-

See HEALTH on Next Page



100 years and still killing

By ROBERT N. PROCTOR
Los Angeles Times

Robert N. Proctor is a professor of the history of science at Stanford University and the author of Golden Holocaust: Origins of the Cigarette Catastrophe and the Case for Abolition. *He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times*.

We're quietly approaching the 100th anniversary of the modern cigarette, but don't expect much in the way of fanfare. Cigarette sales have been falling since 1981, when 630 billion were smoked in the United States. Now we smoke only about 300 billion in any given year, mostly in the style of the "American blend" introduced by Camels.

Camels were first sold in October 1913. Only 1 million were sold that first year, but this quickly grew to 425 million in 1914 and to 6.5 billion two years later. Twenty-one billion were sold in 1919, and by the early 1920s, nearly half of all cigarettes sold in the U.S. were Camels.

And though other "standard brands" were soon introduced—Chesterfields, Lucky Strikes and Old Golds—Camels still had a 30 percent share of the cigarette market in the late 1940s. By its 65th anniversary in 1978, the brand had sold more than 3 trillion sticks. Camel still holds the record for the most cigarettes sold in a single year: 105 billion in 1952.

The success of the brand is traceable partly to marketing genius. N.W. Ayer & Son was the agency hired to handle the launch, which began with a teaser campaign. Newspapers nationwide announced "the Camels are coming," with no hint that the blitz was for a new brand of cigarettes. (Reynolds had not even sold cigarettes before 1912.) One ad crowed that "Tomorrow there'll be more CAMELS in this town than in all Asia and Africa combined!"

The cigarettes came in a new kind of packaging. Camels were the first cigarette sold in that boxy "cup" we now identify as a cigarette pack, with 20 cigarettes per. Camels were also the first smoke to be sold in cartons of 200, and the first sold coast to coast. And (crucially) the first to incorporate what came to be known as "the American blend," a juiced-up concoction of flue cured and burley tobacco leaf that was both mild enough to be inhaled and sweet from sugars added to the mix.

A lot has changed since then. The machines that produced those early Camels could manage only seven or eight per second; today's machines spit out 20,000 sticks per minute, or about 330 per second. And cigarettes today are far more affordable, even with all those taxes going to governments ("the second addiction"). Cigarettes used to be a luxury smoked by dandies and the effete; now they are more likely to be smoked by the mentally ill and destitute.

Some things, though, haven't changed. Cigarettes still kill about half their long-term users, despite industry bluster about filters, low tars and lights, none of which has made smoking safer. Cigarettes still contain arsenic and cyanide and radioactive polonium-210, the poison used to kill that Russian spy in London a few years back. Cigarettes cause one death for every million smoked, which means that the 4 trillion Camels consumed over the last 100 years have probably caused about 4 million deaths.

And it would be wrong to think of the cigarette business as moribund. Shareholders of the three largest makers in the U.S. all earn dividends in excess of 4 percent, and those holding stock in Altria (parent company of Philip Morris) earn closer to 6 percent.

Youth is still key to the business because most smokers start in their teens and stay fiercely brand loyal. Joe Camel was retired in 1997, but until 2009 (when Congress passed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act), Camels came in candy-fruit-tropical flavors, including Camel Mandarin Mint and Camel Mandalay Lime. Camel No. 9s, advertised as "light and luscious" and sold in feminine black and pink packs, are still allowed on the market, despite fears that this "Barbie cigarette" targets girls. And Camel Crush offers a hit of mint to those who like menthol "refreshment." Advertising for such products has increased in recent months, and on my last trip to the dentist, I found four different ads for cigarettes in magazines in the waiting room.

Camel's anniversary is really only being celebrated overseas, where cigarettes sales remain robust. Worldwide, 6 trillion cigarettes (of all brands) were sold in 2012, which explains why smoking remains the leading preventable cause of death. JTI, the company that owns rights to the Camel brand abroad, is celebrating with a giant "iPad controlled video jukebox" in the shape of a camel, with slogans such as "Discover more" and "Inspiring creativity since 1913." Most Europeans can buy packs celebrating the anniversary, and Mexico City has held brand-themed events. All of which helps keep Camels among the five bestselling brands in the world.

Here in the birthplace of Camels, though, things are quieter. The cigarette is something of a cardiopulmonary anachronism, and not much to party about. Camel's success has been literally breathtaking, caravaning millions into that sleep from which we never awake.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Matatiyen Lai Iya Marianas

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

In chile` huramentu (Oath of Office) para `in tatiye sumustene ma-implementan lai konstitusion yan otru siha lai iya Marianas.

Namatman sa` `nai mattu gi Attikulu III, Seksiona 20 gi lai konstitusion, in` atan otru direksion ya in` sedi madirogan este na lai pot kase konbiñiente. Na ti manmanhula` hamyu para in` sistene ma-implementan lai siha?

Manu na patte gi konstitusion sumede i gobietnu, lehislatura, yan kotte man-ayeg manu malago`ña na lai para u tatiye `sino upus? Ni kuantu biahe in` bira i pahina ti in` seda` sa` taya` ennau na probision ni manu gi kontodu konstitusion iya America.

Gi hilu` este haf` para ta sañgane famaguonta pot in` dirogan lai konstitusion? Dinanche mohon disision miyu dispues de man-manhula` hamyu? Manu guihe na patte gi huramentu ti in` kemprende?

Estague` na eskalera `nai ta lilie` kinemprenden lehislatura pot lai konstitusion. Estague` na puntu `nai a`anog haye tumuñgu` haf` chechu` areglon linahyan. Lastima sa` infababan maisa hamyu ni obligasion ni debi in` sisteni taimanu `nai manmanhula` hamyu gi tutuhon este na sakan.

Siempre talie` haf` na klasen balas para tana` setbe ti halom te`ug na estrakadan politika gi otru sakan. Bai` fan ayuda man-uman balutan despedida sa` inipus na diskuidu kulan in` hasñgune kontra tres mit (3,000) na familian man-ritirau.

Ni unu giya siha gumagana $90 mit pesus taimanu in` gagaña gi regulat na sueddu yan mafanana`an stipend. Ayu buente na ti inna` mapot umupus pinadesen niniha i los prohimus. Siempre talie` gi biradan i batku.

Nina`en Gineftau

Esta i man-nae` pot gineftau, sumen mauleg na bittu para indu-thensia `sino bendision ginen hilu`. Mas agradesiyun yangin i nina`imu umafagcha` yan nesessidat i prohimu ni ume`ensinahyau man-aliligau abiu ayudu.

Hu hassu hu fitma un` papet para bai` manae` ni uttimu kuattu gi Ronald McDonald giya Los Angeles gi 1993. `Nai hu birayu` para bai` hanau, estaba un ` palao`an yan mayulañg maleta. Hu lie` ginen trahen famaguoña na namase`ña ke guahu.

Tumohgen ñaihonyu` para bai` ekuñgog konbetsasioña yan manehante. Masañgane na guahu manae` ni uttimu na kuattu. Ha estotbayu` i hu fagchae` na chinatsaga. Hu faisen i asaguahu kau taya` guaha bai` innae` i prohima ni kuatton mame. Mit grasias sa` ha echayu` bendision.

Gi `nai sumesena ham, sige kumilulog halom kuestion siha tat kumu: haf` mohon ya patgonhu sumusede ayu na chinatsaga? Uma`ayuda mohon? Kontentuyu` ni disisionhu gi hilu` tinayuyot na puede todu felis finatoña pot minalañgun patgoña.

I para un` fannae` ayudu parehu ha` gi hilu` gineftau pat nesessidat, asegura na mafattu klaru yan gasgas ginen i korasonmu. Muñga mafa' chaleg i prohimu pot banida na ginen lumiliku` hau mama` Santa Claus. Yangin para un` disfruta dispues, maulegña na un` mantene tatte sa` desde tutuhon esta ha` aplacha` intensionmu.

Attension gi man-amku`

Patte gi kuttura-ta i attension nesessidat man-amko`ta piot `nai esta man-mattu guihe na idat `nai ti siña ma-ayudan maisa siha.

Mauleg ta kontinua muna` fitme este na kustumbreta `nai ta onra mañaina-ta estake man-hanau gi disposision i Saina. Muchumas, unu este gi tinagu` i Saina i para ta onra mañaina-ta.

Hu mente este na asuntu pot matulaikan i tiempu `nai guaha ha` na biahe `nai humalom asuntun gastu yan ayudu diariu gi esta man-tai nina` siña na mañaina-ta.

Na fan geftau hamyu hombre siha masuñgun yan mamattit ha`anen niha pot para tamana` fan dañkulu. Tanae` siha dignu na setbisiu piot `nai mahatsa layag niha para i uttimu karera huyuñg gi minachom atdau gi sanlagu `sino lemlem tautau.

Gi finu` un` kanta-ta, Atan hulu i pilan gi lañget, man-i`ina sumen suabe, ha i`ina i hemhom na chalan para ta lie` hinanauta; kulan un` saina gi famaguon, mapupulan maseha manu, ayu na hagu lokue` ni patgon, para i sainamu muñga ingratu.

Sasalaguan Natibu

Yangin ta ekuñgog finu` tautau-ta siha desde Guam, Hawaii yan America pot dichu motibu na madiñgu i tanu`, esta na`tañges palabran pininite gi tanu` ni hagas mapo`lu kumu paraisun niha.

Ti mahoñgge i masusede `nai appenanas `sino hokog appottunidat niha desde cho`chu` yan antau na komunida ni hagas satton gi kinalamten para minauleg todus. Maliñgu inañgoghun niha!

Mafagchae` bula cho`chu`, mauleg sisteman edukasion, hospitat, guma`, yan man-sentidu yan satton na membron komunida maseha difirensiau rasan niha. Todu pot todu mana` fan daña motmut na sensian tautau isla ya man-a`ayuda gi todu kinalamten.

Mas ke tres mit este na tautau-ta i dumiñgu i tanu guine gi alacha. Mas megai para u fan hanau entre pa`gu na yan uttimon i sakan. Todu umasoda` nuebu na sinisun man-mames siha na sakaten halom hatdin `nai libianu man-hagoñg. Haf` taimanu na tafa` sasalaguan iya paraisu?

Unfinished business for the federal appointed settlement trustee

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian and military cartographer.

The old Chinese adage, "death by a thousand cuts" certainly rings true when applied to the condition of the Retirement Fund before federal intervention.

Now that Fund assets are protected by the federal court, hopefully attorney Joyce Tang, as the appointed settlement fund trustee, will soon turn her attention to following up on the various lawsuits and collection attempts previously filed by the Fund's former board of trustees in an attempt to recover Fund assets listed below and report her findings regarding the present status of each to retirees—particularly those who find the 25 percent deferment difficult to accommodate (if is truly is a deferment and not a permanent reduction).

According to the most recent information in my possession, the following loans or related issues are outstanding, (list may be in need of revision).

(1) Review the NMI Employee Credit Union loan and if necessary take the action required to bring the account "current" unless it has fully paid;

(2) Follow up on lawsuits filed against all government employers to enforce the Fund's right to collect and receive employer contributions at the actuarially determined rate as set by the board of trustees in consultation with its actuary—considering it may now be necessary to adjust for those former defined benefit plan members who have "opted out" and withdrawn from the program, including suits filed to collect unremitted employer and/or employee contributions from the Commonwealth Public School System from those remaining in the DBP;

(3) Recover money advanced to Gary Sword for failure to comply with contract provisions for required deliverables to the Retirement Fund;

(4) Follow up on any outstanding loan to the NMI Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund;

(5) Enforce the Fund's Member Home Loan Program against borrowers who are delinquent or in foreclosure;

(6) Enforce the Fund member's rights under the Judicial Building Loan, assignment of proceeds as collateral, and mortgage. Bring the account current if currently delinquent;

Investigate the feasibility of selling or leasing the Retirement Building to a private entity and move settlement offices into government-owned Capitol Hill housing and apply any rent that may be assessed to the debt the government owes Fund members.

On May 1, 2012, the Fund's board of trustees authorized the following:

"Consistent with its fiduciary duty to maximize Fund assets, [the board] hereby authorizes suits, actions and other proceedings to be brought in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Bankruptcy Division and elsewhere, to collect all sums due and owing to the Fund from all third parties including without limitation, the Commonwealth government and its departments, agencies, and subdivisions, individuals, corporations, and other debtors to the Fund. Such actions shall include without limitation, collections and foreclosures against all third parties in default under any loan or financing agreement; execution of judgments, attachment of properties in all courts of competent jurisdiction."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Some questions needing answers

Mr. Gregorio C. Sablan's letter to the editor of Oct. 3, 2013, stirs up its own controversy needing a reciprocal response. The juxtaposition, "we are all equals here, regardless of our race or heritage" is a signature testament of a full-blooded liberal, and tying this to winning of an election lacks its own justification of empirical reality or misses the rational reasons altogether. We are all equal, Mr. Sablan, really? Perhaps also you are saying that all people are created equal. Your comment, "the truth is race does not determine who wins elections in the NMI, and race never should," is a deflective thinking of the reality in the NMI. What else do you have in mind that we do not know or want to know?

The real point here, Mr. Sablan, is that you are distracting the indigenous people of the NMI by your arbitrary selection of normative words to suggest that being equal means normal and good, when it is really the opposite. Unless, you are focused on the utility of a utopian society or hooked on Karl Marx's ideas of equality, you would need to convince the indigenous people in the NMI what actually you mean by "we are all equal" and explain your conception of what "equality" is all about. As a "statesman" and sole representative of the indigenous people of the CNMI to the U.S. Congress, you are one elitist in this society that would wipe out the existence of the indigenous people in their own islands. The question is not that you think all the people in the NMI are equal, what is important is knowing that you are not equal in representing the interest of the indigenous people with respect to your stance on various immigration bills so far introduced in Congress. Do not confuse the idea that people are "equal" because of conditions you specify, but instead must assure the indigenous people that you are "equal" in representing their interest in keeping these islands as their only refuge of "Chamorro" and "Carolinian" descendants and ascendants.

Mr. Sablan, if race is not a factor, by all means what is your "race"? Is it not true that all your descendants were from these islands that you are trying to dissolve or sidestep? And you think that the indigenous people of these islands would submit to your music and dance. Let me say this, if there is such a thing as "activist" for the indigenous people, you are not. If you are advocating a position that the indigenous people on these islands are not a race, Mr. Sablan, you are in the wrong time and space. Explain yourself, otherwise, do not blame people like Mr. John DelRosario and other indigenous activists engaging in an effort to draw your attention for the good of the indigenous people. And, with this mindset of yours, we will wait for your statesmanship responses to all these.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

HEALTH

From Page 10

companying the regulation actually claims that "(a)lignment with current consumer and employer choices" is a "benefit" of the regulation. But the mandate is clearly not a benefit for consumers who may not want all the coverage that a "typical employer plan" offers.

Indeed, using an employer-provided plan as the model virtually guarantees that many premium dollars will be spent on things a lot of consumers would not choose to pay for.

Employer-provided health insurance is purchased with pre-tax dollars. For a middle-income worker, federal, state and payroll taxes easily total more than 30 percent. Therefore, a tax-free, employer-provided health care plan can spend 30 percent of the premium on coverage the worker deems a waste and still be as valuable to the worker as receiving taxable cash.

Thus, saying that everyone's "basic" health plan must be as good as an employer-provided plan builds a substantial amount of waste into the health care system by design. HHS made no effort to calculate this cost. It acknowledged that expanding coverage could lead to some excessive utilization of services, but the analysis was simply not thorough enough to conclude whether consumers were better or worse off on net.

Given the current high-decibel legislative debate over "Obamacare," some objective information about the effects of the essential health services mandate could be just what the doctor ordered. But the current regulatory process produces no such elixir. The only way we'll see more objective regulatory analysis is if Congress prescribes it by reforming the regulatory process.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. West winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

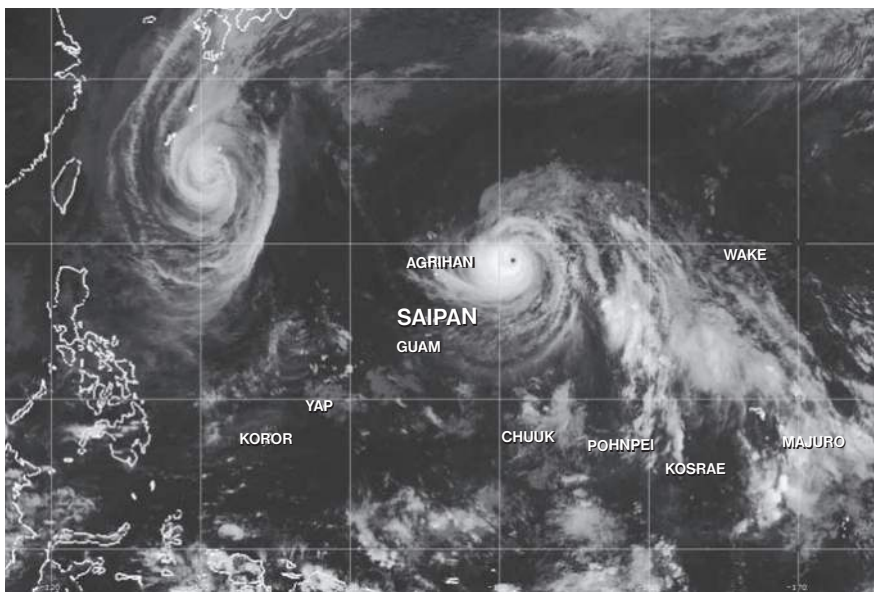
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Cloudy	▲85	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼74
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲64	▼42
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲82	▼71
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼71
London	Mostly Sunny	▲61	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼41
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87	▼72
New York	Showers	▲54	▼38
Osaka	Showers	▲72	▼68
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼57
Pusan	Showers	▲69	▼51
Rome	Showers	▲73	▼60
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼43
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼52
Seoul	Sunny	▲67	▼44
Tokyo	Showers	▲67	▼64
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼41

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Francisco (26W) is centered northwest of the Marianas at 24N131E moving northwest at 10 mph with maximum sustained winds of 80 mph. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the center west of a line from 21N133E to 25N135E. For more information on Francisco, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW and public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM. Typhoon Lekima (28W) is centered 460 miles northeast of Saipan at 18N152E moving west-northwest at 20 mph with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph. Heavy rain and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center between 15N and 21N from 148E to 154E. For more information on Typhoon Lekima, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and public advisories issued by the National WService under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Converging west winds are generating widely scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Guam and near Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from 10N141E to 7N153E to EQ157E and south of a line from 4N141E to 4N150E. Converging winds east and southeast of Lekima are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Wake Island and north of Pohnpei within 250 miles of a line from 23N154E to 12N166E. A surface trough near Majuro extends northeast from 2N169E to 12N176E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present near Majuro and eastward within 250 miles of a line from 3N170E to 11N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:49 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
12:53 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
6:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
11:00 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Monday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:01 PM	10:21 AM
Friday	10:50 PM	11:08 AM
Saturday	11:39 PM	11:52 AM
Sunday		12:34 PM
Monday	12:28 AM	1:15 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

CNMI to hire Taiwanese intern for travel promotion

TAIPEI (Focus Taiwan)—The Marianas Visitors Authority celebrated the opening of its representative office in Taiwan on Tuesday by launching a campaign to choose a tourism ambassador for the United States commonwealth in Taiwan.

The winner of the "Intern to Marianas" campaign will be paid NT$60,000 (US$2,000) to travel around the Northern Mariana Islands for a week and receive training as a tour guide, the office said.

The training will involve a tour of several attractions in the West Pacific island chain, including the path of the annual Saipan Marathon, World War II relics on the island of Tinian, and the natural swimming hole on the island of Rota.

The "intern" will then become the authority's tourism ambassador in Taiwan, participating in local activities or seminars to promote tourism in the Marianas, a chain of islands about 2,750 kilometers southeast of Taiwan, officials said.

The Northern Marianas hope that the campaign will revive interest in the island chain there, said Perry Tenorio, the authority's managing director.

"We want to see Taiwan become part of our market base," Tenorio said, adding that Taiwan is the fourth East Asian country in which the authority had established a representative office, after Japan, Korea and China.

Taiwan used to be an important source of visitors to the islands, with around 10,000 Taiwanese tourists visiting the islands per year in the early 1990s, Tenorio said.

But the number has dropped significantly over the past decade, falling to around 400 last year.

Tenorio said the goal of the commonwealth's office in Taiwan is to restore the flow of Taiwanese visitors to levels seen in the 1990s.

The campaign to choose an intern will run from Tuesday to Jan. 14, 2014. For details, go to the website http://www.mymarianas.com and click on the Chinese language icon.

Habele installing computer lab on Pohnpei

Habele, a U.S.-based charity, has inaugurated a computer science education program on the Micronesian Island of Pohnpei. With the generous assistance of Barbara and Ray Dalio, Habele has begun shipping computers, software, and related accessories to Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School in Pohnpei.

The charity is working closely with Sr. Isabel Seman at Our Lady of Mercy to build the most appropriate computer lab possible for the school's needs.

"The idea is to teach students the information technology skills they will need the rest of their lives," said Neil Mellen, a director of Habele. "The 21st century is going to be online, and high school students in Micronesia need to start preparing for that reality today."

Habele has sent the school Mac computers, monitors, peripherals, and the most common commercial software applications students will encounter. The choice of Macs rather than PCs will help familiarize Our Lady of Mercy students with the types of computers used at most of the higher education institutions in the Western Pacific, assisting students with the often-difficult transition from high school to university.

Habele aims to provide the school with a total computer lab package: all the equipment needed to set up a first-rate network, plus assistance with the installation.

"So often in the past, Micronesia has seen poorly-targeted or poorly-implemented aid projects," said Mellen. "Our donation to Our Lady of Mercy is different. These are the exact computer systems the students need, and we're sending out a local technician to make sure it all runs smoothly."

Habele board members and volunteers will also conduct periodic site visits to work with the school on its computer science program. A team based out of Yap is spending the last two weeks of October in Pohnpei, working to perfect the lab.

Since 2006, Habele has provided scholarships to K-12 students in Micronesia to attend private schools, including Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High. The scholarship program has provided access to classroom education for dozens of low-income students annually, but now the charity wants to increase access to computer training as well.

"The traditional student skills—reading, writing, and arithmetic, if you will—are still an important part of our mission," said Mellen. "But we're realizing more and more that students need fluency with computers and the Internet as well if they're to be full participants in the 21st century."

Due to its remote location, Micronesia has historically lagged behind other countries in terms of access to information technology. Habele aims to change that on Pohnpei.

"Students around the world have a natural interest in computers. Micronesian students are no different. The stumbling block in Micronesia has been access to top-of-the-line equipment, and we're grateful to the Dalio family and other Habele partners and volunteers for their help in rectifying that lack in Pohnpei," said Mellen.

The fact that Habele has been working with educators at the recipient school for several years is seen as the key to the donation's success. "No more used computers showing up in boxes, unannounced and unsupported," said Mellen. "That's not how Habele operates. We've identified a locally defined need, and we've worked out a sustainable program to address it directly. This is a hands-on, results-oriented approach to assistance, a gift from one group of teachers to another."

Habele was founded by former Peace Corps volunteer in 2006. Those interested in supporting Habele's efforts can learn more online at www.habele.org. ***(Habele)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School in Pohnpei give thanks to Habele for its donation of computers, software, and related accessories that will start the creation of a computer lab at the school.

GOLF FUNDRAISER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Micronesian Brokers Inc. general manager John Smith, second left, presents a $2,500 check donation to Joeten Memorial Golf Classic organizing committee chair Somia Quan, third left, in support of the fundraiser golf tournament to be held at Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort on Nov. 9, 2013. Also in the photo are JMGC committee members JJ Tenorio, far left, and Darlene Macaranas, fourth left, and MBI executive Dennis Yoshimoto, far right. The tournament will feature a low-gross format with over $100,000 in prizes. Registration is $95 per player inclusive of green fee, ditty bag, and lunch banquet. Registration forms are available at all major Joeten locations, Ace Hardware, Boarderline, The Athlete's Foot, AllStar Sporting Goods, Joeten Superstore, CMS, Joeten Motors, and Pacifica Insurance. For details about the tournament contact Quan at 234-6446.

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Jaclyn Smith 3 Piece Faux Marble Accent Table Set **$139.95**

RCA 22" LED TV/DVD Combo **$329.95**

Canon Pixma Inkjet Photo Printer LP2702 **$49.95**

Farmington 52" Brushed Nickle Ceiling Fan **$69.95**

Kenmore 30 Inch Tower Fan **$31.95**

Sportcraft 10x10 Instant Shelter **$95.95**

Storm 16" Boys Bicycle **$89.95**

Upland 16" Girls Dragonfly Bicycle **$89.95**

Spalding NBA Street Basketball **17.95**

Wilson NFL MVP Football **$15.95**

Lady's Fashion Bags **$29.95** ***Your Choice***

Bright Starts Lion In The Park Activity Gym **$45.95**

Bright Starts High Chair **$75.95**

Cosco Topside Booster **$19.95**

Ridgid 12 Gal Wet/Dry Vacuum **$69.95**

Husky 44pc Mechanics Tool Set **$44.95**

Craftsman 17 Inch Tool Box **$12.95**

HDX 1000-Watt Halogen Work Light with Tripod **$56.95**

Cleanforce 1400 PSI Electric Power Washer **$169.95**

Homelite Power Washer 2700 PSI **$399.95**

Motion Sensor 180D Security Light with Shields **$29.95**

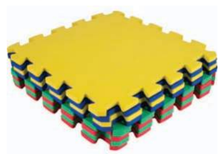
Craftsman 2 ¼ Ton Jack & Jack Stands **$65.95**

Joe Boxer Cuddle Pillow **$6.95**

Essential Home Decorative Pillows 2 Pack **$14.95**

Rubbermaid HD Laundry Baskets **$10.95**

Hefty 15 Qt Storage Solutions **$6.95**



Tectra Multi-Colored Soft Flooring 6 Pack **$17.95**

Craftsman Premium Rubber Hose **$28.95**

Hampton Forge Gourmet Chef Cutlery 3pc Set **$6.95**

Ronco Rotisserie **$99.95**

Hamilton Beach Coffee Urn **$49.95**

Ninja Kitchen System Pulse **$105.95**

Primo Ceramic Tabletop Water Dispenser **$45.95**

Magic Bullet 17 pc Hi-Speed Blender/Mixer System **$69.95**

Nostalgia Electric Donut Maker **$25.95**

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

DFS Group undergoes global rebranding with 'T Galleria'

The newly opened T Galleria in Hysan Place, Hong Kong.

DFS Group, the world's leading luxury travel retailer, recently unveiled its first Traveler's Galleria, or T Galleria, from the heart of Hawaii in Waikiki.

"T Galleria" is designed to emphasize the retailer's understanding of the global traveler's needs. The rebranded identity will replace DFS Galleria, the company's downtown store concept started over four decades ago, at each of their 14 locations across the globe.

In honor of the occasion, DFS hosted celebratory activities in September for more than 600 of its guests, many of whom traveled to Hawaii specifically for the event.

Notable attendees included Crown Princess Marie-Chantal of Greece, Princess of Denmark; and Alexandra von Fürstenberg, both daughters of DFS co-founder Robert Miller; Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie; Golden Horse award-winning actor Ethan Ruan; international fashion model Jessica Michibata; Korean-American actor Daniel Dae-Kim; and British music icon Estelle, who also made a special performance exclusively for the rebranding.

The distinguished guests joined DFS executives, led by chair and CEO Philippe Schaus, as well as senior representatives from LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton and the world's premier luxury brands, alongside a large contingent of international press, in witnessing the milestone.

"After more than half a century of innovation in travel retail, we are thrilled to unveil our plans for continued industry excellence, as we again adapt our business in service of world travelers," said Schaus. "We are proud to reveal the exciting path that lies ahead of us in the company of so many special guests, each of whom has played a key role in building our heritage through the decades and around the world."

Explaining the evolution of DFS at a press briefing, Schaus introduced the new brand identity and global rollout campaign for the upcoming Galleria conversions. Members of the media also enjoyed an exclusive tour of T Galleria Hawaii, learning about its many special services and unparalleled product selection through the more than 700 brands carried by DFS.

At the pinnacle of the weekend, DFS revealed the new T Galleria logo during a breathtaking unveiling ceremony. A specially choreographed Cirque du Soleil performance ushered the VIP guests down a red carpet that wrapped around the store and led directly into the new T Galleria, while traditional Pacific Island dancers and drummers performed a synchronized act. As a crowd of thousands looked on, the blast of twelve conch shells heralded the guests' arrival at the entry of the T Galleria and the beginning of the ceremony. Fifty hula dancers then performed a progressive Hawaiian dance, followed by traditional chanting. After remarks by Schaus and a final Hawaiian blessing, the new logo for T Galleria emerged, in the form of a giant floral structure appearing from the mist enveloping the Galleria.

Festivities continued inside the T Galleria at a Gala Event. With 45 cages filled with live birds hanging from the ceiling and stunning visual merchandising displays, the setting brought to life DFS' fall/winter 2013 campaign, shot by renowned fashion photographer Craig McDean and featuring top international models Karen Elson and Sean O'Pry. Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed entertainment by Cirque du Soleil and the highly acclaimed DJ Rashida. The event concluded with a show-stopping act by Estelle, epitomizing the spirit and energy of the fantastical evening.

Outside the Galleria, the party carried on for the thousands of participants of the public event. They enjoyed nonstop performances by a diverse range of artists, including Taimane, ukulele extraordinaire; Starr Kalahiki, the award-winning Hawaiian jazz artist; and the Noisettes, the famous British indie rock band.

"As the place where we first introduced our downtown concept in 1968, Hawaii is the ideal location from which to open a new chapter in the history of both DFS and travel retail," said Schaus. "For more than four decades, we have been perfecting the downtown travel retail concept, and we are proud today to present the results of that dedication. As we now further deepen our expertise in the luxury segment with T Galleria, we once again confirm our commitment to evolving in line with the desires of our clientele, world travelers."

Guests also participated in a curated program of Hawaiian activities DFS specially designed to demonstrate how its service expertise elevates the destination itself. Activities included a tour of the North Shore with a surfing class taught by U.S. surfing champion Ken Bradshaw, a spa retreat at the historic Sullivan Estate, and an exclusive DFS shopping experience. The unforgettable day ended with an elegant cocktail reception on Waikiki Beach, awash in the setting lights of the Pacific sun.

"We have spent more than 50 years innovating for and catering to the world traveler and are eager to continue for another fifty," said Schaus. "We hope this weekend has offered a preview to our guests of the exciting developments to come as we fulfill this promise."

Following the event in Waikiki, the DFS journey will continue in 2013 with the conversions of three Galleria stores this autumn in Hong Kong, followed by two in Macao at the end of the year.

DFS Group is the world's leading luxury travel retailer. Established in Hong Kong in 1960, DFS Group continues to be a pioneer in global luxury travel retail, offering its traveling customers a carefully curated selection of exceptional products from over 700 of the most desired brands through 420 locations on three continents.

Its network consists of duty free stores located in 18 major global airports, 14 downtown Galleria stores, as well as affiliate and resort locations. The company is privately held and majority owned by the world's largest luxury conglomerate Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton (LVMH), alongside DFS co-founder and shareholder Robert Miller. DFS Group employs over 9,000 people focused on creating inspiring retail experiences for its customers. In 2012, over 200 million travelers visited DFS stores. DFS is headquartered in Hong Kong and has offices in Hawaii, Los Angeles, Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo. ***(PR)***

Celebrate World Priest Day on Oct. 27

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring World Priest Day on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2013, which coincides with the Sierra Club's Priesthood Sunday. World Priest Day focuses on celebrating the ongoing affirmation of priests and building of relationship between couples and priests.

The mission and purpose of World Priest Day is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Lord and the Church through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. It is an opportunity for Catholic parishioners to thank, affirm, and share their love and support for priests.

It is designed to be a day or several days to rejoice in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. On this day, or during the week following it, Catholics across the country are encouraged to develop one or several activities to affirm priests. This is a unique occasion for reaching out to priests.

Suggested activities for couples and families:

Send a card to your parish priest or our bishop emeritus telling them what their sacrament and/or friendship means to you.

Introduce yourself and family to your priest or bishop emeritus you have not met.

Invite a priest you know or don't know to breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Send them flowers or a special card.

Bake them cookies, pie, healthy meals (kids love to be involved).

Have the kids color a picture for them or write them a letter.

Invite them to your home.

Go on an outing together, such as dinner, biking, walk, fishing, tennis, etc.

Suggested activities for parish-wide celebrations:

Put a basket at the church entry and have parishioners write notes of appreciation, affirmation and support for your pastor/priest. In the note highlight the qualities you most appreciate in your pastor/priest and your gratitude for his specific impact in your life.

Invite your pastor/priest or bishop emeritus to a dinner hosted by your group or community. It can be simple—the key is building relationship with them.

Take time before or after weekday liturgies to recognize and appreciate your pastor/priest.

Get Catholic schools or CCD classes involved in a poster or essay contest or in writing notes to their pastor/priest.

Priests have been and are a significant part of our lives. They have ministered to us, preached to us, counseled us, helped to present our Weekend Encounters, and they continue to journey with us. Let us share our lives, our appreciation and love through suggestions above. There is something here for everyone. Get your children involved and encourage the young men in your family and our church to listen to God's call to be open to become priests.

Happy World Priest Day to all CNMI priests and our Bishop Emeritus Camacho! ***(PR)***

Guam Guard soldiers honored for supporting 'Rule of Law'

Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, far left, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, stands with first platoon, Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, after Reinert rewarded the Guam Guardsmen with Army Achievement Medals Oct. 4 at Camp Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan. Kneeling: Spc. Jesse Dela Cruz; 1st Lt. Matthew Rogers; Spc. Joseph A. Castro; Sgt. 1st Class Patrick J. Flores; Sgt. Joseph Camacho Jr.; Sgt. Mark Jason Garcia; Sgt. McMillan Kitalong; and Spc. Frankie J. Borja. Standing: Reinert, Lt. Col. Michael Tougher, commander, Task Force Guam; Capt. Joey San Nicolas, commander, Echo Company; Spc. Joe Mantanona; Spc. Jared A. Mellon; Staff Sgt. Ryan McIntosh; Spc. Keith Muna; Spc. Christopher J. Norrell; Spc. Jacob J. Olivas; Spc. Nathan M.W. Perez; Spc. Juan B. Pocaigue Jr.; Master Sgt Duane Perez; Command Sgt. Maj. Mel Hennegan, command sergeant major, Task Force Guam; and Command Sgt Maj. Paul Vallade, command sergeant major, RLFF-A.

By SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA
GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Photos by U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Spc. Jacob J. Olivas, right, a combat medic with Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives an Army Achievement Award from Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, Oct. 3.

Sgt. Joseph M. Camacho, right, a medic noncommissioned officer with Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives an Army Achievement Award from Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, Oct. 3.

CAMP PHOENIX, Afghanistan—Guam Army National Guard members were recognized and awarded Army Achievement Medals earlier this month at Camp Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Members of Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, received the honors from Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission and Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan. The Guam Guardsmen assisted Reinert and his group on two different missions in September.

"It was short notice, but Task Force Guam stepped forward to assist us," Reinert said. "It's important for us to keep in contact with our Afghan associates and our system is operating appropriately. The Guam soldiers helped us with this important mission."

Reinert awarded 18 Echo Company soldiers with the AAMs.

ROLFF-A consists of service members from all U.S. military branches. They work alongside military personnel from Afghanistan and Europe. Reinert's group works with civil military law teams to promote the Afghan government's judicial system. They create courthouses and even advise where Tri-wall barriers should be placed, Reinert explained.

Far left, Spc. Joseph Mantanona, right, a tactical driver for Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives an Army Achievement Award from Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, Oct. 3.

Left, Staff Sgt. Ryan G. McIntosh, right, administrative noncommissioned officer for Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives an Army Achievement Award from Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, Oct. 3.

Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Reinert, commander, NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission, Rule of Law Field Force-Afghanistan, commends first platoon, Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, prior to rewarding the Guam Guardsmen with Army Achievement Medals Oct. 4 at Camp Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan.

"It was short notice, but we took the mission. They wanted to go to our area of operation," said Capt. Joey San Nicolas, Echo Company commander. "We know the area; we know what security measures need to be taken. We did this in a short amount of time. I think that was the biggest issue for them."

The NATO Rule of Law Support Mission also provides support to Afghanistan's judicial system, Reinert explained, through the use of international civilian technical personnel, security and liaison sources. The NRLSM and ROLFF-A coexist under Reinert's command but operate separately, he added.

"Task Force Guam ran us up to Parwan (Provincial Headquarters) and provided us excellent security so we can conduct our key leader engagements," Reinert, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, said. "That's a critical mission for us."

Reinert also said this was the first time he has worked with a Guam unit. He first met soldiers from Guam more than 30 years ago during Reserve Officer Training Corps training at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Business

Apple gears up for holidays with latest Macs and iPads

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Apple Inc. is refreshing its iPad lineup in hopes of reclaiming lost ground in the tablet market and slashing the prices of its Mac computers to intensify the pressure on the beleaguered makers of PCs running Microsoft's Windows.

Tuesday's unveiling of Apple's latest products primes the company for a holiday shopping season onslaught aimed at a list of rivals that includes Google Inc., Samsung Electronics, Amazon.com Inc. and Microsoft Corp.

A thinner, lighter and faster-running tablet computer called the iPad Air highlighted the event in San Francisco. Apple Inc. also showed off a souped-up iPad Mini that boasts a faster microprocessor, a high-definition display screen and a higher price than its predecessor.

The iPad upgrades, coming a year after the release of the tablet's previous generation, fell largely in line with analyst expectations.

In a surprise, Apple is introducing slightly revamped MacBook Pros at prices 9 percent to 13 percent below the previous versions. What's more, Apple is giving away its latest Mac operating system—Mavericks—for free, as well as several pieces of software, including programs called iWorks and iLife that provide many of the same tools as Microsoft's Office.

"We are turning the industry on its ear," Apple CEO Tim Cook said of the company's strategy.

Technology analyst Patrick Moorhead predicted the discounted MacBook Pros will force personal computer makers to cut the prices of their machines by at least $100 for the holidays.

And Ovum analyst Jan Dawson thinks Apple's giveaway of the operating system and software programs "is now teaching people to expect both of those things to be free. While this won't disrupt Microsoft's business overnight, it will create further pressure on Microsoft to bring down prices."

If that happens, it would be another blow for Microsoft, which has seen its Windows revenue suffer in recent years as personal computer sales sink amid a shift to smartphones and tablets.

Apple triggered the upheaval with the 2007 release of the first iPhone followed up with the 2010 introduction of the iPad.

Light as air

A look at Apple's two new iPads, updates to its MacBook Pro and the new cylindrical desktop Mac Pro:

Newest iPads
• 72 times faster than original iPad
• Will go on sale Nov. 1; iPad mini available later
Both models available in two color combinations:
• Silver and white
• Gray and black
• Available in Retina display
• Price increase from last model
9.7 in. (24.6 cm)
7.9 in. (20.1 cm)
iPad Air
1 lb. (469 g)
Down from 1.4 lb. (635 g)
iPad mini
• 20 percent thinner
• 28 percent lighter
Wi-Fi 3G, Wi-Fi Wi-Fi 3G, Wi-Fi
16 GB $499 $629 $399 $529
32 GB $599 $729 $499 $629
64 GB $699 $829 $599 $729
128 GB $799 $929 $699 $829
Other updates
MacBook Pro
• 13-inch, 15-inch upgraded with new Intel chips
• Prices starting at $1,299 and $1,999
Mac Pro
• New generation of Intel Xeon processor
• Will sell for $2,999 and up
• 9.9 in. (25 cm)
• 11 lb. (5 kg)
© 2013 MCT
Source: Apple
Graphic: Melina Yingling

White replaces silver as favorite car color

TROY, Mich. (AP)—Move over, silver.

After more than a decade as the world's favorite car color, silver is falling in popularity to white. PPG Industries, the leading supplier of automotive paints, says 25 percent of the vehicles it supplied in the 2013 model year were white, up 3 percent from the prior year. Silver and black tied for second, with 18 percent each.

White dominates in Europe, North America and Asia. Only in South America is silver still king.

Apple Inc., with its all-white stores and gadgets, made white a high-tech color. The variety of whites—from flat shades to creamy pearls—is also contributing, says Jane Harrington, PPG's manager of automotive color styling.

But if you don't relish a whiteout on the freeway, never fear. Automakers are currently scouting colors for the 2016 and 2017 model years, and Harrington is showing them some eye-popping options, from a pink-tinged bright red developed in Asia to a rich dark gray with faint green highlights.

Eleven different browns—from light copper to dark chocolate—and an equal number of grays are part of PPG's annual color show for automakers at its automotive center in the Detroit suburb of Troy. There are six yellows and seven greens, from seafoam to dark olive. One notable absence: Powder blue, which is increasingly confined to electric cars or hybrids.

Harrington and her international team determine color trends by watching fashion, architectural paint colors and other predictors. She thinks we'll see more deep jewel tones like teal and more earthy metallics, like reddish orange, in the coming years. With the end of the recession, drivers don't mind being showy again, she says

Car buyers could also see taxi-like yellows and other flat, bright colors, which are growing in popularity thanks to small, funky entries like the Kia Soul.

Pastel tones, like mint green and very light pink, are also in the mix.

PPG will take its color tour on the road to Los Angeles, Europe and Asia and will then start working with individual automakers on their choices. Companies typically choose eight to 10 colors for every model. PPG won't say how many cars it supplies paint for each year, but it works with every major car company.

"They think about the vehicle and how that color will translate," Harrington said. "That color, sparkle and finish helps define the car's character."

Nation

Nevada boy says he came face-to-face with shooter

SPARKS, Nev. (AP)—Thirteen-year-old Angelo Ferro was at the Sparks Middle School playground with friends Monday when he heard a pop about 15 minutes before the morning bell rang. He said he didn't think much of it—it could've been someone popping a plastic bag.

But then he saw an injured boy clutching his wounded arm. He watched his fifth-period math teacher, Michael Landsberry, walk toward a student and fall to the ground.

"When he pulled a gun, we knew what happened," Ferro told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Moments later, the eighth grader was cowered against a wall with some classmates, burying his face in his hands as a 12-year-old boy waved a semi-automatic handgun and threatened to shoot.

Ferro didn't know the boy, but said he and others in the frightened heap tried to talk him out of firing.

"You could hear the panic," Ferro said. "He left, thank God."

By the time police arrived, the 12-year-old gunman had killed Landsberry, wounded two boys and taken his own life.

There were no easy answers Tuesday about what prompted the boy—who police are not identifying out of respect for his family—to take a 9mm handgun from his home and open fire at school. Police said they've interviewed 20 or 30 witnesses and are looking into any prior connection the victims had with the shooter. The boy's parents, who could face charges in the case, are cooperating with the investigation.

AP

This undated photo provided by Chandra Landsberry shows Sharon and Michael Landsberry.

"Everybody wants to know why—that's the big question," Sparks Deputy Police Chief Tom Miller said. "The answer is, we don't know right now."

At a news conference Tuesday, law enforcement and school officials again lauded the teacher's actions, which police say gave students time to run for safety.

"I cannot express enough appreciation for Mr. Landsberry," Washoe County School District Superintendent Pedro Martinez said about the 45-year-old ex-Marine. "He truly is a hero."

"His actions yesterday I believe saved the lives of many children," added Col. Jeffrey Burkett, commander at the Nevada Air Guard's 152nd Airlift Wing where Landsberry served.

Police said they believe the shooter at one point tried to enter the school but couldn't open the door because of emergency lockdown procedures.

Docs: Dead marathon suspect tied to 2011 killings

BOSTON (AP)—Slain Boston Marathon bombing suspect Tamerlan Tsarnaev was named as a participant in an earlier triple homicide by a man who was subsequently shot to death while being questioned by authorities, according to a filing made by federal prosecutors in the case against his brother, surviving bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Tsarnaev

According to the filing made Monday, Ibragim Todashev told investigators Tamerlan Tsarnaev participated in a triple slaying in Waltham on Sept. 11, 2011.

In that case, three men were found in an apartment with their necks slit and their bodies reportedly covered with marijuana. One of the victims was a boxer and friend of Tamerlan Tsarnaev.

Todashev, a 27-year-old mixed martial arts fighter, was fatally shot at his Orlando home during a meeting with an FBI agent and two Massachusetts state troopers in May, authorities said. He had turned violent while being question, according to authorities.

The filing is prosecutors' attempt to block Dzhokhar Tsarnaev from getting certain information from authorities, including investigative documents associated with the Waltham slayings.

"The government has already disclosed to Tsarnaev that, according to Todashev, Tamerlan Tsarnaev participated in the Waltham triple homicide," prosecutors wrote.

According to prosecutors, the ongoing investigation into the 2011 slayings is reason not to allow Dzhokhar Tsarnaev access to the documents he's seeking.

"Any benefit to Tsarnaev of knowing more about the precise `nature and extent' of his brother's involvement does not outweigh the potential harm of exposing details of an ongoing investigation into an extremely serious crime, especially at this stage of the proceeding," prosecutors wrote.

Prosecutors also said Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is not entitled to the information because his brother's criminal history will be relevant, if at all, only at a possible future sentencing hearing.

A phone message left for a spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office was not immediately returned Tuesday night. A message left for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's federal public defender was also not immediately returned.

Authorities allege that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 20, and 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev, ethnic Chechens from Russia, planned and carried out the twin bombings near the finish of the marathon on April 15. Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured.

Asia

Searchers recover midsection of downed Lao Airlines plane

BANGKOK (AP)—Investigators in Laos said Tuesday they have retrieved the midsection of a Lao Airlines passenger plane that crashed into the Mekong River a week ago, killing all 49 people on board, but said they have not recovered the flight recorder.

The Lao Airlines ATR-72 turboprop plane crashed last Wednesday during a heavy storm as it approached Pakse Airport in southern Laos. It struck a riverbank and then plowed into the swift-running river.

Yakua Lopangkao, director-general of Laos' Department of Civil Aviation, said searchers used a crane to lift the middle of the fuselage from the river but believe the "black box," or flight recorder, is still underwater.

"We could still pick up the signal from the black box, which might have fallen out of the plane's midsection when we pulled it out from the water," he said. "We will keep searching for it."

Strong currents and deep, muddy water have hampered the search, which is currently led by French experts.

Investigators using sonar and other equipment picked up signals from underwater over the weekend and narrowed their search to the area they believed might be the location of the black box.

Yakua said 43 bodies have been recovered and the search team found body parts in the river on Tuesday. He previously said authorities believed they had found 44 bodies.

According to the airline, 44 passengers and five crew members were on the flight. The passengers included citizens of Laos, France, Australia, Thailand, South Korea, Vietnam, China, Malaysia, Taiwan and the United States.

Beijing adopts new smog emergency measures

BEIJING (AP)—Beijing is seeking to tame the spikes in its infamous smog by preparing emergency measures such as factory shutdowns and traffic limits to kick in when air pollution levels are especially heavy.

The city government said Tuesday the strictest emergency measures will take effect when the pollution index for fine particulate matter, PM2.5, is forecast to exceed 300 micrograms per cubic meter for three days running.

Private vehicles will be allowed to operate only on alternating days, depending on the last number of their license plates. Factory emissions will be cut 30 percent by suspending or limiting production, and construction sites must halt excavation and demolition work. Classes will be suspended, a measure likely to cause inconvenience in a city where most parents both work.

The measures require precise pollution forecasting and timely public notification to be effective, and there was obvious skepticism in the questions asked by Chinese reporters at a briefing announcing the emergency measures.

AP

In this photo taken on June 29, 2013, tourists look at the Forbidden City from the top of Jinshan hill on a hazy day in Beijing, China.

They apply only to industries and individuals in Beijing, despite the fact that as much as 60 percent of the city's air pollution wafts in from neighboring provinces, such as Hebei to the south.

"We have no control over Hebei, but this is a national priority and we hope we can be a positive role model," Fang Li, vice director of the city's Environmental Protection Bureau, told reporters.

A sprawling city of more than 20 million people, Beijing saw air pollution levels spike this year despite the imposition of more than 100 control measures that are enforced with varying strictness.

Vehicle emissions are blamed for about a quarter of the pollution, with coal-fired plants and factory production blamed for most of the rest.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Indonesian earthquake kills 1, injures 2

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia (AP)—A moderate earthquake killed one villager, injured two others and damaged more than a hundred houses in western Indonesia on Tuesday, a disaster official said. The quake measured magnitude 5.3 and was centered about 32 kilometers (19 miles) southwest of Reuleuet in Aceh province at a depth of 48 kilometers (30 miles), the U.S. Geological Survey said. A 90-year-old man suffered a heart attack as he was fleeing with other residents of Tangse village in Pidie district, National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said.

Brunei's sultan announces strict Islamic penalties

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (AP)—A new criminal law that could include penalties like amputation for theft and stoning for adultery will be enforced for Muslims in Brunei in six months, its ruling sultan announced. Brunei's Shariah Islamic court had previously handled mainly family-related disputes. The sultan has been hoping to implement the new law for years to bolster the influence of Islam in the tiny, oil-rich monarchy on Southeast Asia's Borneo island. Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah said the Shariah Penal Code should be regarded as a form of "special guidance" from God and would be "part of the great history" of Brunei.

Chinese newspaper urges police to release reporter

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese newspaper made a rare front-page appeal for police to release one of its reporters after he was detained for writing reports alleging financial misdeeds at a large construction equipment company. The New Express newspaper on Wednesday said there was no evidence the journalist, Chen Yongzhou, had committed any crime. The paper says Chen was being punished for a series of reports he wrote that scrutinized the finances of Zoomlion, a construction company listed on the Hong Kong and Shenzhen stock exchanges. Police in the Hunan provincial capital, Changsha, said on its official microblog that the journalist had been detained for alleged "damage to business reputation.

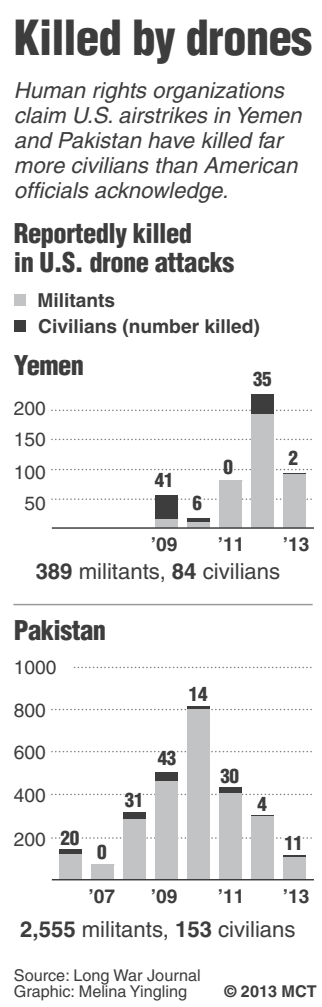
World

Rights groups score US drone program

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States on Tuesday defended drone strikes targeting al-Qaida operatives and others it deems enemies, rejecting reports by two human-rights groups questioning the legality of strikes they asserted have killed or wounded scores of civilians in Yemen and Pakistan.

Human Rights Watch alleged that 82 people, at least 57 of them civilians, were killed by the unmanned aircraft and other aerial strikes in Yemen between September 2012 and June 2013 and called such strikes unlawful or indiscriminate. Amnesty International called on the U.S. to investigate reports in Pakistan of civilian casualties, among them a 68-year-old grandmother hit while farming with her grandchildren.

The New York-based Human Rights Watch said such strikes are unlawful or indiscriminate. Amnesty, based in London, said it is concerned that the attacks outlined in the report and others may have resulted in unlawful killings that constitute extrajudicial executions or war crimes.



President Barack Obama's chief spokesman, Jay Carney, said the U.S. "would strongly disagree" with any claims that the U.S. had acted improperly, arguing that American actions follow all applicable law.

Repeating Obama's defense of the drone policy earlier in the year, Carney said there must be "near-certainty" of no civilian casualties before the U.S. proceeds with a drone strike. He said they're not used when targets can instead be captured.

"U.S. counterterrorism operations are precise, they are lawful and they are effective," Carney said.

Other methods of going after targets would result in even more civilian casualties "and ultimately empower those who thrive on violent conflict," Carney said. He added that there's a wide gap between U.S. assessment of drone-related civilian casualties and what some non-governmental groups have determined.

Amnesty said the U.S. is so secretive about the drone program that there is no way to tell what steps it takes to prevent civilian casualties.

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ADDENDUM NO. 1
10/23/2013
ITB14-GOV-002

Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project

The previously advertised, Invitation to Bid ("ITB") for the **"Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project"** has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend questioning period and bid submission. The ITB shall read as follows:

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST October 31, 2013 to Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB14-GOV-002, Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 18, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 18, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 18, 2013 and must be received no later than November 27, 2013 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST November 29, 2013. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:00 AM ChST November 18, 2013.

All other elements of the RFP remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670)664-2375 or by fax at (670)664-2408.

Life & Style

Bullock, Roberts crowned at Hollywood Film Awards

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—With talk of televising the Hollywood Film Awards Gala next year, stars at Monday's ceremony enjoyed what could be their last unedited award show.

Julia Roberts accepted her supporting actress award barefoot and multiple stars, including Roberts, Sandra Bullock, Jack Black and Jane Fonda spouted expletives freely.

Launching the awards season, the 17th annual Hollywood Film Awards, held at The Beverly Hilton, brought together a slew of A-list stars to toast accomplishments—and share laughs.

Kanye West kicked off the ceremony by presenting Steve McQueen with the "Hollywood Breakout Director Award."

"I've arrived!" said McQueen, who directed "12 Years a Slave."

Black presented the screenwriter award to Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy and Richard Linklater, the trio behind "Before Midnight." On-stage Delpy and Hawke quibbled as Delpy bumped Hawke away from the microphone with her hips. Said Linklater, "This is why we don't improvise in the movie."

When presenting Michael De Luca with his producer award, "Captain Phillips" newcomer Barkhad Abdi thanked him for "changing my life." Abdi played one of the Somali pirates who hijacked an American cargo ship off the Horn of Africa in 2009.

Kicking off his actor award acceptance speech with the first lines he'd uttered onscreen in 1993's "Dazed and Confused," Matthew McConaughey greeted the crowd with an aptly southern "All right, all right, all right." Star of the upcoming "Dallas Buyers Club," he said he's enjoyed playing the anti-hero and gave a special thanks to wife Camila Alves, who "makes sure I never have to look in the rearview mirror when I go to work."

Sean Penn presented Roberts with the supporting actress award for her work in "August: Osage County." ''It was my dream cast," said Roberts. "It was something I almost didn't do. I was scared because I am that paradox of person who wants to be Lucille Ball, but who wants to be invisible."

AP

Julia Roberts accepts the Hollywood Supporting Actress award at the 17th Annual Hollywood Film Awards Gala at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Monday, Oct. 21, 2013, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Robert Downy Jr. had one of the best opening lines of any presenter: "Greta Garbo, Grace Kelly, Faye Dunaway, Charlize Theron, Jared Leto: All arguably the most beautiful actresses," he said before handing Leto his breakout performance award for his role as a transgender person in "Dallas Buyers Club."

Presented by Angela Bassett, the "New Hollywood Award" went to Lupita Nyong'o, who was the only recipient to tear up during her speech.

When receiving her actress award from Octavia Spencer, Bullock said, "The Hollywood I know has allowed me to keep trying and not send me out to pasture."

Said Lee Daniels when accepting his director award for his work on "Lee Daniels' The Butler," ''This is a big time not just for African American cinema, but for cinema."

Chris Martin accepted the song award for Coldplay's track "Atlas," the original song penned for the upcoming "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," which he performed at the gala.

Harrison Ford, who gained the career achievement award, was the only recipient to receive a standing ovation.

Additional awards included: Jake Gyllenhaal received the supporting actor award; "Fruitvale Station" star Michael B. Jordan, "Lee Daniels' The Butler" actor David Oyelowo and Sophie Nelisse, of the upcoming "The Book Thief," received spotlight awards; Bruce Willis presented Jerry Weintraub with the legend award and the ensemble award went to the cast of "Osage County" including Roberts, Juliette Lewis, Dermot Mulroney, Margo Martindale, Julianne Nicholson and Chris Cooper.

Forest Whitaker, Viola Davis, Geoffrey Rush, Amy Adams, Jeremy Renner and Sean Hayes were also in attendance.

Nancy O'Dell was the host.

Holocaust survivor makes symphony debut with Ma

BOSTON (AP)—A 90-year-old Holocaust survivor made his orchestral debut with renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma on Tuesday to benefit a foundation dedicated to preserving the work of artists and musicians killed by the Nazis.

Ma and George Horner received floral bouquets and a standing ovation from their audience of about 1,000 people in Boston's Symphony Hall. They appeared to enjoy their evening, chatting briefly between numbers and walking off the stage hand-in-hand after taking a bow together.

Before the performance, Ma and Horner met and embraced ahead of a brief rehearsal. Ma thanked Horner for helping the Terezin Music Foundation, named for the town of Terezin, site of an unusual Jewish ghetto in what was then German-occupied Czechoslovakia. Even amid death and hard labor, Nazi soldiers there allowed prisoners to stage performances.

AP

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma, rear, rehearses with Holocaust survivor George Horner on stage at Symphony Hall Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2013, in Boston.

They played music composed 70 years ago when Horner was incarcerated.

"It's an extraordinary link to the past," said concert organizer Mark Ludwig, who leads the foundation.

Horner played piano and accordion in the Terezin cabarets, including tunes written by fellow inmate Karel Svenk. On Tuesday, Horner played two of Svenk's works solo—a march and a lullaby—and then teamed up with Ma for a third piece called "How Come the Black Man Sits in the Back of the Bus?"

Svenk did not survive the genocide. But his musical legacy has, due in part to a chance meeting of Ludwig, a scholar of Terezin composers, and Horner, who never forgot the songs that were written and played in captivity.

Still, Ludwig found it hard to ask Horner to perform pieces laden with such difficult memories.

"To ask somebody who ... played this in the camps, that's asking a lot," said Ludwig.

Yet Horner, a retired doctor who lives near Philadelphia, readily agreed to what he described as a "noble" mission. It didn't hurt that he would be sharing the stage with Ma—even if he thought Ludwig was joking at first.

"I told him, `Do you want me to swallow that one?'" Horner recalled with a laugh. "I couldn't believe it because it's a fantastic thing for me."

Ma said before the performance that he hoped it will inspire people to a better future.

"I grew up with the words, `never again,'" said Ma, who was born 10 years after the end of World War II revealed the scope of the Holocaust. "It is kind of inconceivable that there are people who say the Holocaust didn't exist. George Horner is a living contradiction of what those people are saying."

He said Horner was able to survive "because he had music, because he had friends, because the power of music could fill in the empty spaces."

"To me George Horner is a huge hero, and is a huge inspiration," Ma said. "He is a witness to a window, and to a slice of history, that we never want to see again, and yet we keep seeing versions of that all over the world. I hope we are inspired by that and we keep that memory forever."

Horner was 21 when he was freed by Allied soldiers in 1945 after being imprisoned at Terezin, Auschwitz and Buchenwald. His parents and sister perished in the camps.

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MACHETE KILLS [CC,DV] (R) 720 PM
GRAVITY 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) (440 PM) 715 PM
RUNNER RUNNER [CC,DV] (R) (515 PM)
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 [CC,DV] (PG) 705 PM
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 3D [CC,DV] (PG) (445 PM)
INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 2 [CC,DV] (PG-13) (430 PM) 700 PM
THE GRANDMASTER (PG-13) (420 PM)

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Thor takes a hit for womankind

AP

In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Chris Hemsworth, portraying superhero Thor, and Natalie Portman, portraying jane Foster, are shown in a scene from the film, "Thor."

LONDON (AP)—Natalie Portman says hitting Chris Hemsworth was "one small slap for womankind."

The actress, who reprises her role as Jane Foster in "Thor: The Dark World," gives the superhero a smack in the Marvel sequel.

"Thor: The Dark World" has its world premiere in London Tuesday and is out in U.S. cinemas Nov. 8.

In an interview on Saturday, Portman said that she channeled all her single girlfriends: "You hear all these stories about guys and it's just good to get a nice on-screen slap like 'you didn't call me back.'"

The intention may have been payback but, according to Hemsworth, the result was less so.

"It just got really funny and ridiculous you know. It's like in high school when you're not meant to laugh," he said.

And fun and laughs is what Portman wants audiences to have. Despite appearing in many more serious and highbrow roles, the Oscar winner will not have the Hollywood blockbuster devalued.

She says "escapism" is the main reason people go to the movies and there is no room for snobbery.

"All independent art films aren't good, all blockbusters aren't good, and all foreign films aren't good. There are a few of each that are really great, whether it is for pure entertainment, for something that is going to change your mind about how you see the world or taking you to a place that you haven't been before."

Talking about the "Thor" franchise, she added: "This kind of movie—this grand spectacle and good old fashioned entertainment where for two hours you are having a great time—is really, really valuable."

Next year Portman will be leaving Hollywood behind, as a home at least, when she relocates to Paris with her husband, French choreographer Benjamin Millepied, and their 2-year-old son, Aleph.

Millepied will take up the role of director of the Paris Opera Ballet and Portman can't wait to explore.

"It is such a fun thing that you can take an hour flight or train or something and end up in a completely different country," she said. "It is exciting."

Kim Kardashian, Kanye West are engaged

NEW YORK (AP)—Marriage is coming after the baby carriage for Kim Kardashian and Kanye West.

Kardashian's publicist, Ina Treciokas, confirmed Tuesday that the couple are engaged.

E! News first reported that West proposed to Kardashian Monday—her 33rd birthday—in front of family and friends at the AT&T Park, home of the San Francisco Giants.

Kardashian gave birth to the couple's first child, daughter North West, in June.

A photo posted on Instagram shows a screen at the stadium that reads "PLEEEASE MARRY MEEE!!!"—in typical West font—above a black-clad orchestra. Another shows Kardashian showing off a diamond ring with a smiling West behind her.

The Kardashian clan has a series of reality shows on E!, and, after initially saying it didn't have cameras at the stadium, the network said late Tuesday it did have cameras there to capture the moment.

Khloe Kardashian seemed to celebrate on Twitter when she wrote: "Tears of JOY!!!!!!! Wow!!!!!!" She also tweeted: "Wow!!!!! Am I dreaming??!?!" Kimye were quiet on Twitter.

Kardashian was previously married to NBA player Kris Humphries. Their divorce was finalized in June after they were married for 72 days in 2011. Her first marriage was to music producer Damon Thomas in 2000.

West is currently on a tour with Kendrick Lamar. "The Yeezus Tour" will visit the SAP Center in San Jose on Tuesday night. Earlier Monday, he attended the Hollywood Film Awards in Beverly Hills, presenting Steve McQueen with the Hollywood Breakout Director Award.

AP

In this Oct. 22, 2012 file photo Singer Kanye West and girlfriend Kim Kardashian attend Gabrielle's Angel Foundation 2012 Angel Ball cancer research benefit at Cipriani Wall Street in New York.

Oprah visits 2 South African grads studying in NY

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. (AP)—Oprah Winfrey has paid a visit to two of the graduates from the celebrity's school in South Africa who are enrolled at a private college in upstate New York.

A spokeswoman for OWN, Winfrey's cable channel, says Tuesday that the former daytime talk-show queen was at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs on Monday to meet with two graduates from Winfrey's Leadership Academy for Girls. The academy, a boarding school for underprivileged South African girls, opened in 2007.

The two young women are studying at Skidmore, a liberal arts school located 165 miles north of New York City.

Christel MacLean, co-owner of The Crown Grill, tells local media outlets that Winfrey and the two students had dinner at the restaurant Monday night in a private back room.

Rapper Big Freedia brings bounce to TV audience

NEW YORK (AP)—New Orleans hip-hop artist Big Freedia is twerking his way to TV screens.

The openly gay rapper, a representative of the city's vibrant underground music scene, debuted his weekly Fuse show, "Big Freedia: Queen of Bounce," earlier this month. He's helped bring bounce music—the energetic brand of hip-hop born in New Orleans that's conducive to the mid-section, hip-shaking dance move known as twerking—to the masses.

"It's been around for two decades. It's the culture there, it's history there," he said of the dance.

Last month, Big Freedia earned a Guinness World Records title for most people twerking simultaneously with more than 250 people in New York's Herald Square.

The performer said his new series, which airs Wednesdays, will reveal more layers of his personality.

"They get to see me on a more personal level. They get to see some of the struggles that I go through day-to-day," he said.

Big Freedia, who has opened for the Postal Service's tour this year, discussed his music, Miley Cyrus' twerking and homophobia in hip-hop in an interview with The Associated Press.

AP: I've been hearing that twerking is dead. Do you agree?

Big Freedia: Twerking is definitely not dead. I've been twerking for the last three years, converting one twerker at a time all around the world.

AP: Miley Cyrus twerked at the MTV Video Music Awards, among other places. What's your take on her twerking?

Big Freedia: She really didn't twerk, you know. She attempted to twerk, but she didn't really twerk properly and so people were confused and little baffled about the dance moves that she did do.

AP: What is proper twerk technique?

Big Freedia: Definitely practice in the mirror before you attempt it. You have to use your body in the upright position, you can use your knees for support and that's the only way you can twerk.

AP: How accepted do you feel in the rap community?

Big Freedia: I feel very accepted, like I never have any slander. I never have any issues. You know, like, when people see me, they respect me. It's all about how you carry yourself.

AP: Are you ever offended by homophobic lyrics?

Big Freedia: Not at all. I know who I am, I stand firm on who I am. Those artists are going to vent out and say what they feel and as long as it's not, you know, directed to say one person, that's fine. It's lyrics. It's gonna be around for a long time.

AP: When are you going to release new music?

Big Freedia: I have an EP coming out ...I also have an album coming out ... And I'm about ready to go on my fall tour for five weeks, travelling all around the world and spreading the goodness of bounce music.

AP

This undated photo released by FUSE shows New Orleans hip-hop artist Big Freedia in a recording session.

China cracks down on 'American Idol'-style shows

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities are cracking down on how often broadcasters can air reality, dating and talent shows such as the Chinese versions of "American Idol" and "The Voice," which draw huge audiences.

Provincial broadcasters show such programs, which are cheap to produce and earn a lot of advertising revenue, on satellite channels seen around the country.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported that the "American Idol" kind of talent shows now need approval from the body that oversees broadcasting, which will license one such program per channel each quarter for prime-time viewing.

It also reported that new regulations require satellite channels to allocate no less than 30 percent of their weekly air time to topics including news, economics, culture and science from next year.

There have been repeated efforts to limit American-style reality TV and other light fare shown on satellite TV, or push them out of prime-time viewing, with stated reasons including the need to stop vulgar content and promote more efficient use of resources.

Repeated calls to the State General Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, which reportedly issued the latest regulations, rang unanswered.

Liu Shanying, a political scientist at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said he suspected the new regulations were because the satellite channels were taking too much audience away from the national broadcaster China Central Television.

The administration "is helping CCTV, the TV broadcaster that has the main task of carrying forward the government's message," said Liu, who used to work for CCTV. "The local stations have more freedom to attract audiences with entertainment shows. And that takes away too many viewers from CCTV and they are afraid that no one will pay attention to the government's tune."

The restrictions are expected to drive still more viewers online—where they can watch the same types of pre-recorded shows—and away from state TV.

Divorcee longs for fairy-tale proposal on bended knee

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a divorcee in my 40s who is in a committed relationship with a man who is also divorced. Neither of our marriages were happy ones. We stayed in them for all the wrong reasons. We have been together for three years, live together, love each other unconditionally and have talked extensively about getting married.

My question is, am I wrong to expect a traditional proposal with an engagement ring? It is important to me that he would think enough of me to plan one. I feel if he did it for his first wife, he should do the same—or more—for me. Would it be in bad taste to mention this?

ASKING TOO MUCH? IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ASKING TOO MUCH?: Unless one of your companion's attributes is clairvoyance, express your feelings. He may not be aware that you would feel somehow cheated if he doesn't come forth with a gesture that is "equal or better" than what his ex received. Consider carefully what resulted from that first fancy proposal.

An essential ingredient in a successful relationship is the ability to express one's wants and needs to the other partner. I would only suggest that when you do, your thoughts are couched as a request and not a demand.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Enlighten me, please. A friend told me her daughter is expecting. She has not said one word about a boyfriend or marriage. How do I diplomatically ask, "Who is the father?"

People in my generation already knew the answer. Marriage came first. Is this now "none of my business"? The grandma-to-be has offered no clue. Can you help me out?

OUT OF THE LOOP OUT WEST

DEAR OUT OF THE LOOP: If Grandma-to-be is keeping mum, you can bet there's a reason. If the father was Prince Harry, she would be trumpeting it from the rooftops. Your friend may not know who the father is or have some other reason for not disclosing it. Unless you want to tiptoe through a minefield, my advice is DON'T GO THERE.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl who suffers from what I'm afraid is obsessive-compulsive disorder. I have known for four years, but I never told my parents. I finally opened up to them a few days ago, and I thought they wanted to help. But later I heard them mock my condition and laugh about it.

Abby, I thought my parents wanted to help me, but it's becoming clear that they don't. They have offered me therapy, but I'm scared they will mock me for that, too. Now I'm afraid to go. Should I?

O.C.D. DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: When people don't understand something, unfortunately they sometimes laugh at it. However, are you absolutely certain that what your parents were laughing about concerned you and not something else? I find it hard to believe that loving parents would laugh at their child's discomfort.

You should by all means take them up on their offer of talking to a therapist. It is the surest way to find a solution for your problem. And when you do, tell the therapist you think you heard your parents laugh about your problem, because if it's true and they are not aware of how serious the problem may be, the therapist can explain it to them.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

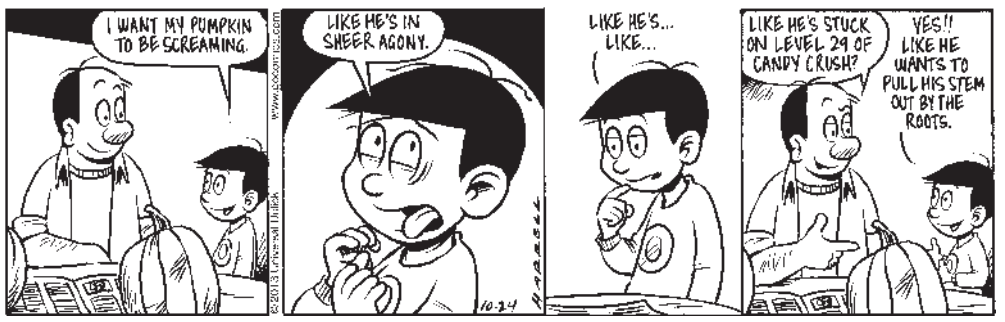
HERE I AM, HAPPY AND CONTENT.
...BUT NOT EUPHORIC.
SO NOW I'M NO LONGER CONTENT. I'M UNHAPPY. MY DAY IS RUINED.
I NEED TO STOP THINKING WHILE I'M AHEAD.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset


I WANT MY PUMPKIN TO BE SCREAMING.
LIKE HE'S IN SHEER AGONY.
LIKE HE'S... LIKE...
LIKE HE'S STUCK ON LEVEL 29 OF CANDY CRUSH?
YES!! LIKE HE WANTS TO PULL HIS STEM OUT BY THE ROOTS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

OH, CRUD! I'M WIDE AWAKE.
IT'S NO USE... IF I DON'T GO TO SLEEP SOON...
...IT'S REALLY GOING TO AFFECT ALL THE NAPPING I HAVE PLANNED TOMORROW.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Swamp
4 Telephone interaction
8 Unadorned
12 Past
13 Hodgepodge
14 Largest continent
15 Minor occurrence that had major hype
17 Tatters
18 Sock part
19 Small citrus fruit
21 Literary sibling surname
24 Old French coin
25 Remiss
26 "Casablanca" pianist
28 Mideast money
32 Lindros of hockey
34 — Mahal
36 Unescorted
37 Starbucks request
39 Intimidate
41 Ph. bk. info
42 Knock
44 "Goldfinger" singer Shirley
46 Triumph (over)
50 Trawler need
51 Places
52 OK for the lactose-intolerant
56 Deserve
57 Stage statuette
58 Prompt
59 Pharmaceutical
60 Rip
61 London's — Gardens

DOWN
1 Enthusiast
2 Swelled head
3 Safe for consumption
4 Breaks a Commandment
5 Pub order
6 Nexus
7 Yoga position
8 Earl's superior
9 Birthright barterer
10 Latvia's capital
11 Right on the map?
16 A billion years
20 Chic, to Austin Powers
21 Evidenced a wound
22 Exceptional
23 Dine on
27 PC alternative
29 Like Teflon
30 Shaving cream additive
31 Optimistic
33 Thanksgiving task
35 Occupation
38 JFK watchdog org.
40 Roam
43 Vineyard grape
45 Red or Black
46 Responded in court
47 Lion's noise
48 Beige
49 Earring locale
53 Actress Vardalos
54 Wish otherwise
55 Evergreen type

Solution time: 25 mins.

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W	O	K	■	O	B	S	T	I	N	A	T	E
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■	■	■	P	U	P	■	■	A	G	O	N	Y
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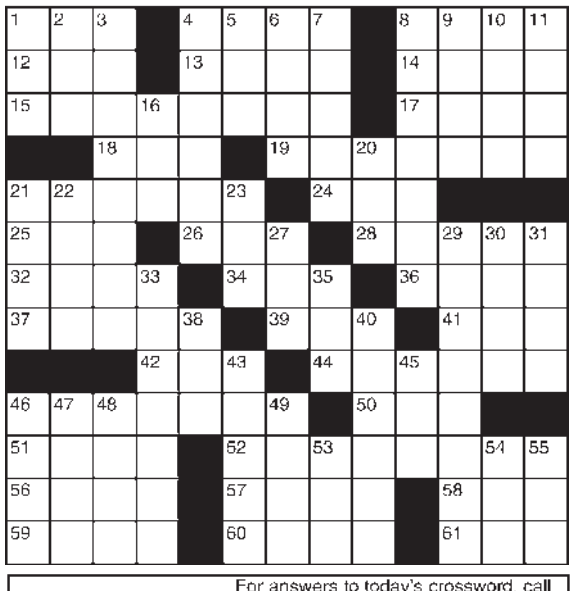
Yesterday's answer 10-24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kyla Ross, 17; Shenae Grimes, 24; B.D. Wong, 53; Kevin Kline, 66.

Happy Birthday: Added discipline equals achievement. Take on projects that appeal to you. Don't fear that you may not excel. Focus on your abilities and desires and you will reach your destination. Your talent will far exceed any competition you encounter. The extras you include in what you do will make you stand out. Your performance will please those you deal with. Your numbers are 5, 12, 17, 21, 24, 34, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Don't let emotions mislead you. Overreacting will not help you get your way. Back off and focus on what will help improve your appearance, attitude and confidence so that you can say "no" to a bad offer. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): A partnership will help you reach your life goal. Discuss responsibilities and long-range plans. Volunteer your time and you will gain experience and meet people who can help alter your life. Love and romance should close out your day. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Move in a direction that encourages you to use your skills wisely. Innovation and determination will guide you into something prosperous. Before you take a leap in a new direction, make sure your motives and intentions are good. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Clear your head and rehash what's been going on in your life. Don't feel forced to make changes or do something because of someone else's decision, move or change. Express your creative imagination and explore your own interests. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Keep moving. Change is good and will lead to self-improvement. Don't let anyone restrict or limit you. It is probably time to consider making alterations that allow you to be who you are without feeling guilty. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Step outside any decision you face and you will gain wisdom and clarity regarding your options. Discuss your concerns with a good friend or relative and prepare to move ahead with your plans. Don't waste time. Make your choice and move forward. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make creative suggestions and you will advance. Don't let your emotions interfere with your work or your progress. If someone gives you a hard time, you should reconsider your connection. Someone you meet will have something that interests you. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Communication, travel and picking up some important information are highlighted. Let your intuition guide you. Flaunt your expertise, skills and knowledge and you will have even more opportunities and good fortune. Sign contracts, initiate settlements and invest in your future. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): It's best to keep your financial situation a secret for the time being. Someone will try to take advantage of you or offer you some false information. A change at home will turn out to be beneficial. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Try something new or put your talent to use in an unusual way. Concentrate on your reputation and status and do everything in your power to advance. An opportunity will arise through someone you have worked with in the past. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Say no to anyone trying to coerce you into something you don't want to do. Voice your opinion and be prepared to continue down a path that suits your needs. Love and romance are looking good and should help ease your stress. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take action. If you see something you want, go after it. Push to sign deals and to invest in something that requires your skills, talents or expertise. Invest in yourself, your home and your future. Follow your intuition. ✪✪✪✪✪

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3						1		2
		5	9				3	
	7		6					9
	3	7			8			
			1			6	4	
9					4		5	
	8				6	2		
6		1						7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	7	5	9	1	8	6	2	3
1	2	9	3	6	5	7	4	8
8	3	6	7	4	2	1	9	5
6	4	7	2	8	9	5	3	1
3	9	8	6	5	1	2	7	4
5	1	2	4	7	3	8	6	9
9	8	3	5	2	7	4	1	6
7	5	4	1	3	6	9	8	2
2	6	1	8	9	4	3	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

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Y	K	E	L	A	D	R	A	Y	E	L	A	V	C	L
O	Y	C	R	I	S	I	S	G	L	Y	S	Y	B	O
C	A	C	T	I	O	N	A	A	T	E	E	T	E	R
C	A	(E)	(M)	(I)	(T)	D	R	T	D	R	R	T	E	D
M	S	N	O	R	G	O	O	O	F	O	A	T	I	S
E	R	T	R	E	P	O	S	I	U	V	S	V	M	R
E	O	R	T	R	B	I	L	G	I	A	L	I	E	N
C	I	I	O	E	P	L	H	R	M	M	T	V	F	L
C	R	C	R	E	A	T	P	N	W	H	I	O	T	E
L	R	B	O	G	O	A	E	N	E	V	E	U	N	E
E	A	A	D	N	S	R	T	A	E	S	C	T	A	W
S	W	K	E	A	T	D	E	G	V	P	A	E	N	T
T	E	E	G	H	A	I	R	C	I	A	P	R	N	R
O	C	R	G	C	C	S	E	M	L	U	S	N	E	E
N	I	M	A	I	L	L	I	W	S	L	A	H	T	P

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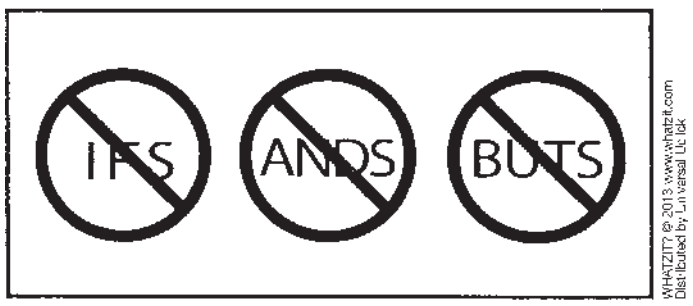

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Cardinals, Red Sox set to renew October rivalry

AP

In this image taken with a fisheye lens, Boston Red Sox players take batting practice as a rainbow appears in the sky above Fenway Park Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2013, in Boston. The Red Sox are scheduled to host the St. Louis Cardinals in Game 1 of baseball's World Series on Wednesday.

BOSTON (AP)—Lance Lynn squeezed through a door leading into the Green Monster, shimmied along a cramped space behind the famed left-field wall and peered out a tiny metal slot in the Fenway Park scoreboard.

"A little snug for me," the burly St. Louis pitcher said.

Plenty of Cardinals got their first look at the century-old ballpark during a workout Tuesday, a day before they opened the World Series against the Boston Red Sox.

The Red Sox saw a neat sight, too. As they took batting practice at dusk, a giant, vibrant rainbow formed high in the sky beyond center field. Slugger David Ortiz noticed.

"Oh, yeah," he said. "It's a Dominican thing."

Whatever, Big Papi. Something special always seems to happen when the Redbirds and Red Sox meet, from Stan the Man vs. the Splendid Splinter, to Gibby vs. Yaz, to Pedro vs. Pujols.

Now, they're set to meet for the fourth time in "that Octobery kind of air," as Cardinals Game 1 starter Adam Wainwright described it.

Jon Lester will oppose him Wednesday night, facing a lineup that got a late boost. Allen Craig, who hit a major league-leading .454 with runners in scoring position but hasn't played since Sept. 4 because of sprained left foot, is set to return.

"I feel like I'm in a good spot," said the cleanup man, who will be the Cardinals' designated hitter.

Weather could be a factor. Temperatures are supposed to dip into the low 40s and rain is in the forecast.

Boston was listed as a slim favorite in the matchup between teams that tied for the big league lead in wins. The clubs haven't met in the regular season since 2008, and Red Sox speedster Jacoby Ellsbury was looking forward to this pairing that some are billing as the Beards vs. the Birds.

"It will be exciting to see some unfamiliar faces," he said.

Dustin Pedroia, Mike Napoli and many of their scraggly Boston teammates figure to get a good look at the Cardinals' crop of young arms, led by postseason ace Michael Wacha and relievers Trevor Rosenthal, Carlos Martinez and Kevin Siegrist.

Ortiz is the link to the Red Sox team that swept St. Louis in the 2004 Series - Boston never trailed at any point - and ended an 86-year championship drought.

"Obviously I'm aware of the history of the two teams," Ellsbury said. "Once the first pitch happens, all that goes out the window."

The Red Sox are trying to win their third crown in 10 years. St. Louis is aiming to take its second title in three years and third in eight seasons.

"Some of us have some pretty bad memories of being here in 2004, and we're looking to kind of right that ship," St. Louis manager Mike Matheny said.

Matheny was the Cardinals' catcher that year, backed up by rookie Yadier Molina. Now Molina is considered the best defensive catcher in baseball, charged with trying to stop Ellsbury and a Red Sox team that's run a lot in the postseason.

"It's fun to be part of this history, to be here in Fenway Park, to be part of this Series against Boston," Molina said.

"It's different to play here overall. Playing defense, offense, pitching. It's different, but at the same time it's fun," he said.

David Freese grew up in St. Louis and became MVP of the 2011 Series. He heard about Stan Musial vs. Ted Williams in 1946, knew about Bob Gibson facing Carl Yastrzemski in `67 and recalled watching on TV when Red Sox reliever Keith Foulke fielded Edgar Renteria's tapper to finish off 2004.

"I remember the comebacker that ended it. The sweep. You don't expect a World Series to end in four games," the 30-year-old third baseman said.

Freese said he'd always hoped to get a chance to play at Fenway, and he got his first look Tuesday.

After Matheny stood near the mound and pointed out the particulars of the dirt triangle in center field, Freese stepped in for batting practice. He launched a long drive that hit high off the Green Monster in left-center, the loud thwack echoing all around the ballpark.

"That's my Wall ball," he hooted to teammate Matt Holliday.

Good for a hitter, maybe not so great for a pitcher.

"A ballgame can change with one swing of the bat in this ballpark," said Wacha, who also climbed into the wall. "It's pretty crazy. Crazy dimensions, that's for sure."

Reds choose Bryan Price for next manager

CINCINNATI (AP)—Pitching coach Bryan Price was first on the Reds' list of manager candidates. Three hours of answering every question tossed his way ended their search rather quickly.

After one interview, it was over.

The Reds stayed in-house for their next manager, giving Price a three-year deal Tuesday that came with expectations that he'll take them deep into the playoffs right away.

"Bryan is exceptional," owner Bob Castellini said. "We've been fortunate to be with him long enough to know how exceptional he is.

"I can't tell you how well this has fit in for us. We did not have to go out and do a search," he said. "We had the person we felt could take this team deep into the postseason and then some."

Dusty Baker led the Reds to three 90-win seasons and three playoff appearances in the last four years, their best stretch of success since Sparky Anderson managed the Big Red Machine in the 1970s. But Cincinnati got knocked out in the first round of the postseason each time.

The Reds fired Baker with a year left on his two-year deal after a final-week fade that included an implosion by the pitching staff.

Cincinnati lost its last six games, including a 6-2 defeat at PNC Park in the wild-card playoff against the Pirates. General manager Walt Jocketty said the closing slump was a major factor in the decision to make a change.

Jocketty considered two in-house candidates: Price and Triple-A manager Jim Riggleman. Price got the first interview and impressed everyone so much that Jocketty didn't interview anyone else.

"I was convinced that Bryan was our guy just because of the past association we've had with him," Jocketty said. "I think that to bring other people in just for the process of going through an interview - to me, I wouldn't want that."

The job carries enormous expectations for the 51-year-old Price, who has been one of the most successful pitching coaches in the majors but has never managed at any level. He interviewed for the Marlins' job last year, which got him thinking that he'd like to be a manager some day.

Given his four successful seasons in Cincinnati, he wanted to stay if possible.

"It's a team that's capable of doing even more," Price said. "I think we certainly should talk very optimistically about the three playoff appearances in the last four years, which were maybe somewhat discredited because we hadn't gotten past the first round.

"Considering the 15 years prior, it was definitely a huge step in the right direction," Price added. "But we all have expectations of getting beyond that."

Price was a left-handed pitcher for six years in the minors, his career scuttled by elbow surgery. He started his coaching career in Seattle's farm system and was the Mariners' pitching coach from 2000-05. He moved to Arizona as pitching coach from 2006-09, resigning there after Bob Melvin was replaced.

Jocketty hired him to replace Dick Pole in Cincinnati, where he helped the Reds' staff develop into one of the NL's best during his four seasons working with Baker. Now, Jocketty has several important lineup decisions to make to try to keep the Reds competitive in the NL Central, which sent three teams to the playoffs.

Division champion St. Louis opens the World Series against Boston on Wednesday. The Pirates passed the Reds for second place and home-field advantage for the wild-card playoff during the final week of the season.

The pitching staff will have some changes, with starter Bronson Arroyo eligible for free agency. Left-hander Tony Cingrani made his debut last season and showed he could win in the majors, but was sidelined by back problems in September. Ace Johnny Cueto missed most of the season with shoulder problems.

The Reds have to decide whether to keep left-hander Aroldis Chapman as their closer or move him into a starting role. Price would have preferred making him a starter. If he gets moved into the rotation, the Reds don't have anyone with appreciable experience at closing games.

He and Jocketty said they hadn't made any decisions on the pitching staff or the everyday lineup.

The offense struggled last season with no consistent right-handed hitter. Cleanup hitter Ryan Ludwick tore cartilage in his right shoulder on a slide on opening day and missed most of the season. He returned in mid-August and hit only two homers with the shoulder still bothering him.

Joey Votto and leadoff hitter Shin-Soo Choo led the NL in on-base percentage, but Choo is a free agent. Billy Hamilton created a sensation with his speed when he was called up in September, but struggled to get on base consistently in Triple-A before his first promotion to the majors.

Chamblee stands by 'cheating' implication of Woods

NEW YORK (AP) — Golf Channel analyst Brandel Chamblee apologized to Tiger Woods on Tuesday after insinuating the world's No. 1 player cheated during his five-win season.

Chamblee saved Woods for last in his report card of 14 players in a column posted last week on Golf.com. He told of getting caught cheating on a math test in the fourth grade, and how the teacher crossed a line through his "100" and gave him an "F."

Chamblee followed that anecdote by writing, "I remember when we only talked about Tiger's golf. I miss those days. He won five times and contended in majors and won the Vardon Trophy and ... how shall we say this ... was a little cavalier with the rules." He then gave Woods a "100" with a line through it, followed by the "F."

The 51-year-old Chamblee apologized in a series of posts on his Twitter account on Tuesday night.

"My intention was to note Tiger's rules infractions this year, but comparing that to cheating in grade school went too far," he wrote.

Mark Steinberg of Excel Sports Management, the agent for Woods, was so incensed by Chamblee's column that he released a statement to ESPN.com that accused the analyst of a desperate attempt to garner attention. In an interview with ESPN.com, Steinberg said he would "have to give some thought to legal action."

Steinberg did not reply to an email from The Associated Press.

No other golfer evokes such a mixture of praise and criticism than Woods, the main attraction of any sport for nearly 20 years. Chamblee's column struck a nerve with many, however, because of the implication that three rules violations and a penalty drop involving Woods amounted to cheating - the strongest accusation possible in golf.

"What brought me here was the realization that my comments inflamed an audience on two sides of an issue," Chamblee wrote on Twitter. "Golf is a gentleman's game and I'm not proud of this debate. I want to apologize to Tiger for this incited discourse."

Woods accepted a two-shot penalty in Abu Dhabi for taking relief from an embedded ball in a sandy area covered with vegetation. Augusta National gave him a two-shot penalty for taking the wrong drop in the second round of the Masters. And the PGA Tour gave him a two-shot penalty after his second round of the BMW Championship when video evidence showed that his ball moved slightly from behind the first green.

Also in question - at least on Internet blogs - was the drop Woods took on the 14th hole of the TPC Sawgrass during the final round of The Players Championship. Woods checked with playing partner Casey Wittenberg on where to take the penalty drop, which is standard procedure. Wittenberg said it was the correct spot.

Chamblee said in an earlier email to The Associated Press that he never said outright that he thinks Woods cheated, and that was by design.

"I think `cavalier with the rules' allows for those with a dubious opinion of the BMW video," Chamblee said. "My teacher in the fourth grade did not have a dubious opinion of how I complete the test. But she was writing to one, and as I was writing to many, I felt it important to allow for the doubt some might have, so I chose my words accordingly.

"What people want to infer about that is up to them," he said. "I have my opinion, they can form theirs."

United States team player Tiger Woods watches his tee shot on the eighth hole during the single matches at the Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club, Sunday, Oct. 6, 2013, in Dublin, Ohio.

Video shows Woods' ball move as he tried to remove a small branch from in front of it at the BMW Championship. He maintained it only wobbled and returned to its original position. Woods watched the video in the rules trailer after the round, but still maintained it only oscillated. The tour docked him two shots.

"I don't feel I'm the one that needs to justify the `F.' The BMW video does it for me, followed by Tiger's silence - until confronted - and then by his denials in the face of incontestable evidence to the contrary of his petitions," Chamblee said in the email. "To say nothing of the fact that he was disrespecting his position in golf, the traditions of golf and his fellow competitors, in my opinion."

Chamblee, who has developed a reputation of being critical of Woods' swing and golf game, is a contributor to "SI Golf Plus," which is not affiliated with Golf Channel.

Golf Channel declined to comment.

Chamblee said he was most surprised by Steinberg's comments to ESPN.com.

Woods' longtime agent told the website, "There's nothing you can call a golfer worse than a cheater. This is the most deplorable thing I have seen. I'm not one for hyperbole, but this is absolutely disgusting. Calling him a cheater? I'll be shocked, stunned, if something is not done about this. Something has to be done. There are certainly things that just don't go without response. It's atrocious. I'm not sure if there isn't legal action to be taken. I have to give some thought to legal action."

Asked earlier if he was rattled by Steinberg's consideration of legal action, Chamblee replied, "No." Chamblee said on Twitter that no one asked him to apologize.

Woods was voted PGA Tour player of the year by his peers for the 11th time. He is not expected to play again until a European Tour event Nov. 7-10 in Turkey, followed by his Northwestern Mutual World Challenge on Dec. 5-8 in California.

Rams bring in QB Quinn

ST. LOUIS (AP) —The St. Louis Rams have agreed to a contract with Brady Quinn, quickly adding another quarterback after losing Sam Bradford to a season-ending left knee injury.

Kellen Clemens, the backup the past two years, will make his first start since 2011 on Monday night against the Seahawks.

Quinn was a first-round pick by the Browns in 2007. He has bounced around and was cut by the Jets on Monday.

Bradford injured his knee in the fourth quarter Sunday in a loss at Carolina and is expected to undergo surgery in a few weeks when swelling subsides.

Meanwhile, four people accused of roles in an altercation caught on video following a New York Jets-New England Patriots game in New Jersey are now banned from all events held at the stadium.

The Jets made the announcement Tuesday night, shortly after New Jersey state police filed simple assault and disorderly conduct charges against the three Massachusetts residents and a New York man.

The team said it has ''zero tolerance for this behavior,'' which it said violates its ''Fan Code of Conduct.''

The four will be allowed to apply for readmission privileges once the legal process has run its course, but will have to meet certain conditions. The team said that includes the completion of an online conduct course and the submission of a written apology.

The charges were filed Tuesday afternoon against Amanda MacDowell of Marlborough, Mass.; Jaclyn Nugent and David James Sacco, both of Boston, and Kurt Paschke of Holbrook, N.Y.

MacDowell and Nugent allegedly kicked and punched Paschke. He then allegedly punched Nugent in the face. Sacco also allegedly hit Paschke in the face.

It wasn't immediately clear if the three Massachusetts defendants had attorneys; phone numbers for them could not be found Tuesday night. Paschke's attorney has said a full review of the evidence will vindicate his client.

The game was played Sunday afternoon at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

In comments made Tuesday before the charges were announced, Paschke's father defended his son, saying he was defending himself.

''My wife is a breast cancer survivor and he brought her to the game to have a nice day and these people ruined it and now it's being turned around like he is the aggressor,'' Kurt Paschke Sr. told The Associated Press. ''If you watch that video, you can clearly see he is being pulled back by one kid in a Patriots jersey while the other Patriots fans are smacking him in the face.

''I'm tired of hearing about you never hit a girl or punch a girl,'' he added. ''But if three girls are attacking you what recourse, you know if someone can come up with a reasonable recourse that he had, I will be glad to listen to it.''

The younger Paschke was convicted of criminally negligent homicide as a result of a 1992 stabbing outside a Sayville, N.Y., pizzeria, and was imprisoned from 1995 to early 1998, according to authorities and court records.

Miami's NCAA saga comes to an end with sanctions

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) —When the NCAA's long-awaited decision arrived Tuesday morning, Miami athletic director Blake James realized it was what he expected all along.

"Fair," James said. "But significant."

And final. The Miami-NCAA saga is over.

More than 2 1/2 years after former booster and convicted felon Nevin Shapiro contacted the NCAA from prison and began detailing his role in rampant rule-breaking by those involved with Miami's football and men's basketball programs, the Hurricanes got their final penalties. The most notable sanctions are the nine lost football scholarships over three years and one lost basketball scholarship in each of the next three seasons.

A three-year period of probation, which started Tuesday, and some recruiting restrictions are also part of the penance.

But for the first time since 2010, Miami's football team - currently undefeated and ranked No. 7 nationally - will be heading to a bowl game.

"I want to sincerely thank our student-athletes and their families who, not only stood with the University of Miami during this unprecedented challenge, but subsequently volunteered for the mission," Miami football coach Al Golden said in a statement released by school officials. "They shouldered the burden, exhibited class and exemplified perseverance for Hurricanes everywhere."

Miami said in February that it would appeal any sanction beyond what it had already self-imposed. Over time, that stance softened, and the Hurricanes are accepting what the NCAA handed down.

No appeal is coming, at least not by the Hurricanes.

None is coming from Missouri basketball coach Frank Haith, either. Haith will miss the first five games of Missouri's upcoming season because of what the NCAA said his role was in the Shapiro scandal, and said Tuesday that "it's time for closure.

Three former Miami assistant coaches got two-year show-cause bans, including Clint Hurtt, who's part of the football staff at Louisville.

"It's relief that we finally have a decision," Miami President Donna Shalala told The Associated Press. "It's been a long haul. But I don't have any anger or frustration."

The sheer size of the Miami investigation was unlike almost any other, with 18 general allegations of misconduct with 79 issues within those allegations, along with 118 interviews of 81 individuals by the NCAA's count. The committee wanted to complete its work within eight weeks; it took more than 18 weeks between the end of the Miami hearing and the release of Tuesday's decision, mainly because of the staggering amount of material that needed review.

Heat looking for 4th straight Finals trip

MIAMI (AP)—Anytime an NBA franchise is trying to do something only previously done by the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers, that's rarefied air.

That's what the Miami Heat are trying to reach this season.

After going to the NBA Finals in each of the past three seasons - winning the last two titles - the Heat now aim to join an exclusive club. Only the Celtics, from 1957-66 and again from 1984-87, and the Lakers, from 1982-85, have made at least four consecutive trips to the championship series.

''It would mean everything, man,'' said Heat forward LeBron James. ''First of all, it means that I'm doing my part and I'm helping our team get better. It would mean everything to our team. That's what we're here for. We work our tails off every day. If it can pay off with another Finals appearance, we'd represent the Eastern Conference the best way we can.''

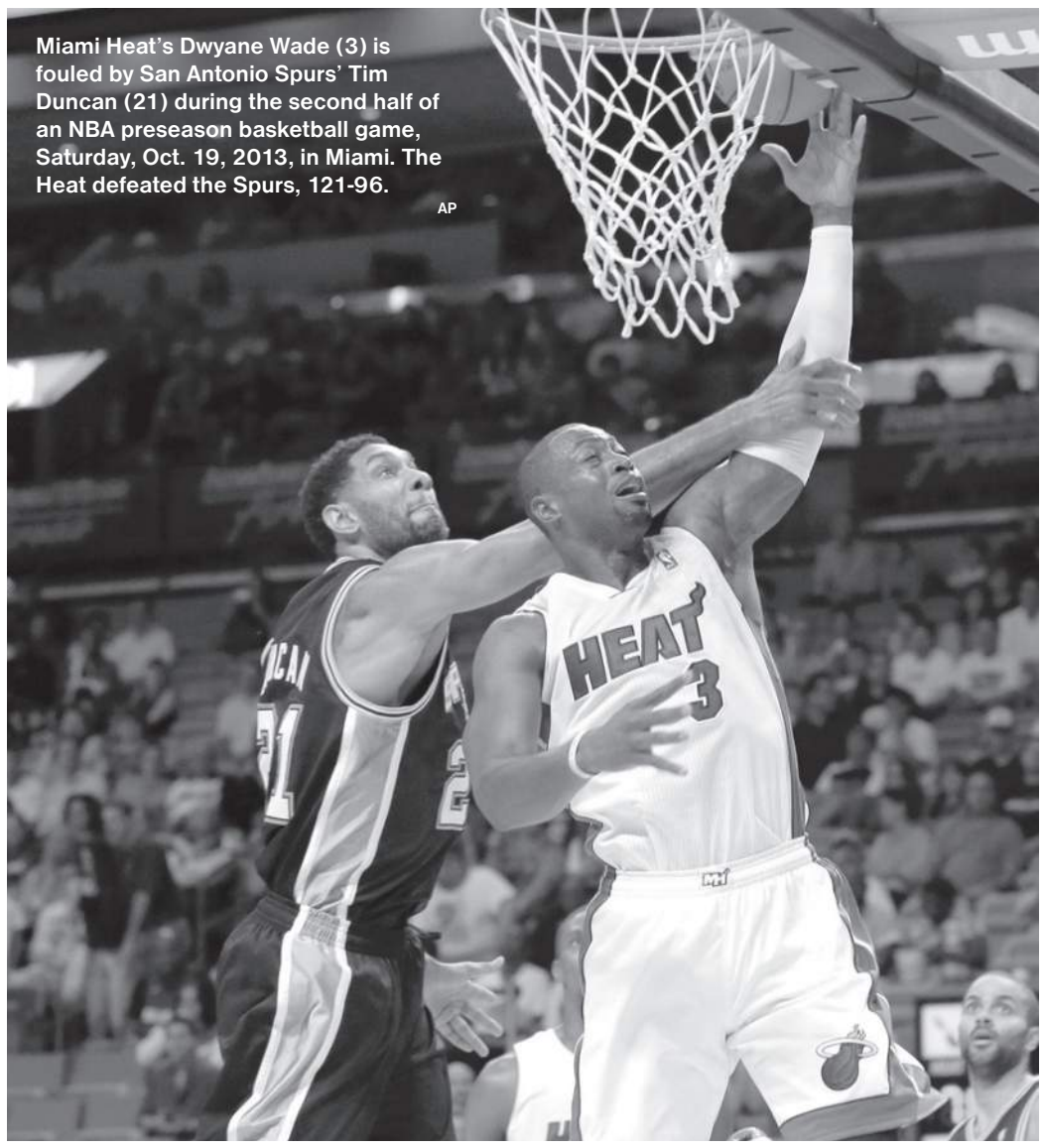
Miami was taken to the limit twice in last season's playoffs, needing to prevail in Game 7s to beat Indiana in the East finals, then topple San Antonio in the NBA Finals.

Ray Allen's dramatic 3-pointer to save the Heat in Game 6 against the Spurs will forever be the stuff of highlight lore. They put together a 27-game winning streak in the regular season a year ago, the second-longest in NBA history. All that, the Heat say, is pretty much pushed aside now.

''This has been a very competitive camp,'' Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. ''Guys are in here, working, every single day.''

They're doing so with a singular goal of winning it all.

''When you put this kind of talent together, there's always people on the outside trying to figure out ways why it shouldn't work,'' Heat guard Dwyane Wade said. ''When you're on the inside and can put it together and show them that it can work, it's a great feeling. For us to be able to go to the Finals three straight times and hopefully go again, what more can you ask for?



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (3) is fouled by San Antonio Spurs' Tim Duncan (21) during the second half of an NBA preseason basketball game, Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013, in Miami. The Heat defeated the Spurs, 121-96. AP

Luxury travel packages at stake in Hyatt golf tourney

With over 34 Hyatt properties supporting the 18th Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic, golf enthusiasts are in for a world-class set of accommodations, meals and travel packages as raffle and hole-in-one prizes. With a huge turnout of support from Hyatt Regency Saipan's sister properties, the hotel wants to thank Hyatt hotels in Guam, Japan, Hong Kong and mainland China, Taiwan, Thailand, Manila, Vietnam, Malaysia and Australia.

This year's Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic will have three luxury travel packages to Japan, China and Korea. With support from Delta Air Lines, Top Development Inc. and Asiana Airlines, the 18th Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic set for Nov. 15 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort invites golf enthusiasts to register for a chance to win exciting travel packages. Non-golf playing guests will also have the chance to win during the banquet event which is priced at US$35 per person to enjoy a delicious dinner banquet and chances to win thousands worth of raffle prizes.

This year's tournament will feature a player-friendly format that categorizes each flight as follows: A Flight (for players with 0-11 handicap; B Flight (12-20 handicap; C Flight (20 and above handicap); Senior (golfers in the 55 and above age group); and Ladies, which will have a double peoria format.

The Top 3 placers in each flight will receive prizes. The champions will get a one night accommodation in a Presidential suite, Sunday brunch at Giovanni's for two, and a Swedish massage at i Saguá Spa for two, while runners-up will take home one night accommodation in a Regency Executive suite and Sunday brunch at Giovanni's for two. The third finisher will get a one night accommodation in a Regency Club room and Sunday brunch at Giovanni's for two.

Through this annual event, Hyatt Regency Saipan, the Make-A-Wish foundation, and its supporters will fulfill the lifelong dreams of children with terminal illnesses. This year's tournament will also benefit other non-profit organizations through its corporate responsibility platform, Hyatt Thrive (for more information on Hyatt Thrive visit thrive.hyatt.com).

Hyatt Regency Saipan is inviting teams, sponsors and golf enthusiasts to help make this worthwhile cause a success. If you want to make a donation, consider a monetary or in-kind contribution by contacting Club at the Hyatt office at 234-1234 extension 26 or send email to cath@hyattsaipan.com. ***(PR)***

ME hosts golf fundraiser this Saturday

The CNMI Chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter is pleased to announce a fundraising golf tournament this Saturday at the Mariana Country Club.

The registration begins at 11am with a shotgun start at 12 noon. The $75 entry fee includes cart, beverages, fruits, and an awards party immediately following the tournament.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will help subsidize the next ME Weekend to be held from Nov. 8 to 10 at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe. A few slots are still available for interested couples. The weekend fee is $100 per couple and includes 2 nights accomodations and all meals. The ME Weekend is intended for happily married couples who wish to enhance their relationship through improved communication. It also allows couples to spend true quality time with their spouses for one getaway, romantic weekend.

For more information about the golf tournament and or the ME Weekend, please contact J.J. and Juanette Atalig at 285-4115; Joe and Reyna Saures at 285-9247; and Jay and Joyce Santos at 285-5466. ***(PR)***

KIMURA

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"I was happy when I found out that my name is going to be on the national record board. It is a great honor knowing I'm getting closer to the stage of record holders Jonathan Sakovich, Rezne Wong, Alex Screen, and Kai Staal. These swimmers motivate me to work harder and get to their league. Breaking records might not be the whole concept of swimming, but I believe it's a great step to reaching a swimmer's goal," said Kimura, who thanked his teammates and coaches for their support.

The Olympian Sakovich holds the most national records with 7 (100m, 200, 400m, 800m, and 1,500m freestyle, 200m butterfly, and 400m individual medley). Wong has five (50m, 100m, and 200m breaststroke, 50m butterfly, and 200m IM), while Staal owns two (50m freestyle and 50m backstroke), and Screen has one (100m butterfly).

Kimura then joined the elite club of CNMI national record holders early this year. He represented the CNMI to the 6th Australian Youth Olympic Festival at the Aquatics Centre of the Sydney Olympic Park in Australia on Jan. 19 and timed in at 2:19.12 in the 200m backstroke, shattering also Lee's 10-year mark (2:19.89/July 25, 2003). Kimura's time in the 200m backstroke was also the first of the last five records he made in the 15 to 16 division this year before he moved up to new age group.

Meanwhile, Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said Kensuke's records and Kaito Yanai's mark (100m breaststroke/1:13.55) were good indications of a promising season for the club's swimmers. He added that this season, Tsunami Saipan has set five goals for its members. Making strong relay teams in lower age group topped the list, which also includes registering 20 age group records, strengthening the skills of U8 swimmers, and producing good results from off-island competitions.

To achieve these, the Tsunami Saipan head coach said they will be holding virtual meet every month with sister club Tsunami Guam and participate in tournaments in Guam next year.

LADDER

From Page 28

Galarse also failed to buy a single basket in the pivotal period.

In the second game, Proa also won in the fourth quarter after engaging the Hoopaholics in a close battle in the first three cantos.

Lerio Pagarao secured the victory for Proa in the final frame, as he knocked in 9 of his 17 points in that quarter. Three of his teammates also contributed to Proa's cause in the fourth, which began with Pagarao and company holding a risky 2-point lead, 41-39.

The Hoopaholics continued to breathe on Proa's neck early in the fourth until Pagarao found his rhythm and nailed 6 straight markers past the halfway mark of that canto to give his team more cushion. Dan Barcinas then hit a triple, while Pagarao added 3 more consecutive markers, and Marvin Rabauliman made the final basket for the 8-point win.

The Hoopaholics struggled a bit on offense in the fourth, firing only 12 points and getting more than one field goal only from one player—Kelvin Fitial.

First Game

Ladder Beach 77 – McCain 23, Vinas 10, Paraiso 10, Abuel 10, Mangali 8, Standish 6, De Leon 4, Sison 3.

KB Market 70 – Talania 17, Esdrelon 12, Galarse 10, Barbo 10, Devero 8, Muleta 8.

Scoring by quarters: 14-23, 33-46, 53-62, 77-70.

Second Game

AXE Proa 59 – Pagarao 17, Barcinas 14, Sablan 11, Lizama 5, Rabauliman 4, Pua 4, Villacrusis 3.

Hoopaholics 51 – Lauron 15, Itibus 12, Fitial 11, Babauta 5, Diaz 5, Manibusan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-11, 32-30, 41-39, 59-51.

CASTRO

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The Top 3 finishers along with the 30 others bikers started the race at the southern parking lot of PIC, passing through the Airport Road, Isa Drive, Kagman Road, and Talafofo before going back to San Antonio via Beach Road.

Eleven other bikers joined the road bike category with Willy Barbo and Edwin Tiwales rounding out the Top 5 after posting 1:55:01.40 and 1:57:46, respectively. Other finishers were Aldrin Sta. Ana (2:00.16), James Abuy (2:16:15), Gerald Rangamar (2:21:45), and Arman Salburo (2:29:09).

In the MTB division, there was also a down-to-the-wire finish between Nap Dizon and Dencio Bautista with the former winning after clocking in at 1:55:01.37 against the latter's 1:55:01.68. Ricky Suba completed the Top 3 after tallying 1:59:24. Dizon and company took the same prizes given to the road bike Top 3 winners.

Six other MTB division participants finished the race. The list includes Ric Antonio (2:26:11), Red Remilloza (2:19:34), David Boyer (3:11:27), John Day Moreno (3:11:30), Bruce Lorazer (2:57:48), and Noel Ignacio (2:16:15).

In the women's division (road bike), Athena Andrews completed the half century race in 2:11:03 to beat Zai Lijuan and Yurie Lorangz, who recorded 2:33:30 and 2:57:49, respectively. Andrews also won an entry to the Hell of Marianas, a medal, and two water park passes. The two other female riders received the same prizes awarded to the runners-up in the men's race.

PIC Bike for Life 50K Race

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Four bikers head up to Papago during last Sunday's PIC Bike For Life 50K Race.

Nap Dizon checks on the bikers behind him.

Jerome Diyco has his eyes on the road while cruising Garapan.

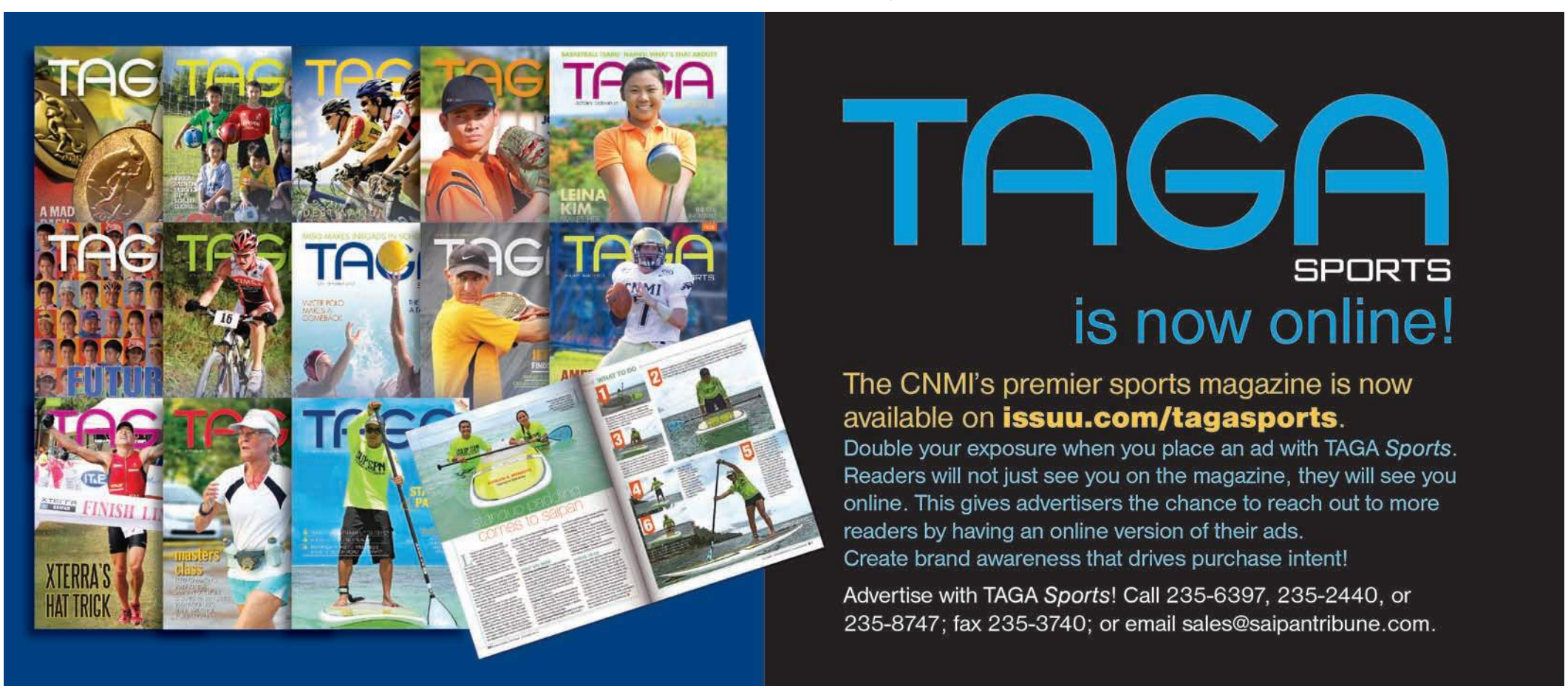
Bikers take it slow heading up to Papago.

Ricky Suba concentrates as he negotiates a slippery road.

A female biker leads two other riders up to Papago.

John Ricafort heads to the aid station near the road leading to Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo.

Three bikers cruise along Lower Base on their way back to the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.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Kimura gains another national swim mark

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura, seen here competing in the 100m backstroke race in a local meet last season at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, recorded his second CNMI national mark early this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center's Kensuke Kimura earned his second CNMI national record during the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation-hosted tournament held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation certified last Sunday that Kimura's 1:03.62 time in the 100m backstroke is the new CNMI mark, breaking the 1:04.80 Saipan Swim Club's Seung Gin Lee submitted on July 21, 2003.

See KIMURA on Page 26

Ladder Beach, Proa keep clean slates

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

I Love Ladder Beach and AXE Proa still hold unblemished records, following their separate wins in the UFO-Budweiser Open Division Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Ladder Beach rolled to its fourth victory in as many games after rallying past KB Market in the curtain-raiser, 77-70, while Axe Proa outclassed the Hoopaholics in the second match, 59-51, to improve to a 3-0 card.

Falling behind by as much as 13 in the first half, 33-46, and still down by 9 at the end of the third, 53-62, Ladder Beach managed to steal the win in the fourth canto after holding KB Market to three field goals and 8 points. On offense, Ken McCain lifted Ladder Beach in the fourth quarter, as he drilled 11 of his 23 points in the payoff period.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
AXE Proa's Lerio Pagarao pulls up for a jumper against two Hoopaholics defenders during the third quarter of their game in the UFO Open caging last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Ladder Beach also leaned on its decent 3-point shooting in the fourth canto to turn the tables on KB Market, as the former connected three treys, including two from McCain. KB Market made only one shot from downtown, courtesy of Elmer Esdrelon, while Ivan Devero was the only other player to hit a field goal for his team in the final frame. KB Market collapsed, as it was held scoreless for more than three minutes midway in the fourth canto.

KB Market was off to a good start, as Leo Galarse converted two triples and scored 8 markers in the opening canto, while Brendon Talania added 6 to power their team to the 23-14 lead. Galarse and Talania continued their consistent showing on offense in the next two quarters and KB Market also drew points from Darwin Barbo to stay on top after the third canto.

In the fourth quarter meltdown, Barbo made only one free throw, while Talania fouled out and was scoreless, while

See LADDER on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Erico Castro passes through the Garapan Fishing Base during last Sunday's Pacific Islands Club Bike for Life.

Castro leads winners in Bike for Life 50K

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Youth biker Erico Castro prevailed in a closely fought road bike race in last Sunday's Pacific Islands Club Bike for Life.

Castro completed the 50-kilometer race in 1:54:59, nosing out fellow U18 biker Jerome Diyco, who made it to the finish line at the 1:55:01.06 mark. Diyco also faced a tough challenge from Butch Sublemente in the battle for second place, as the veteran biker timed in at 1:55:01.37.

Castro was awarded a medal, free entry to Hell of Marianas, and PIC Water Park passes for two for ruling the road bike division. Diyco also got a medal and a brunch certificate at Magelland and 2 water park passes, while Sublemente had water park passes, too, to go with his third place medal.

See CASTRO on Page 26